SEPT.-OCT.
NO. 55
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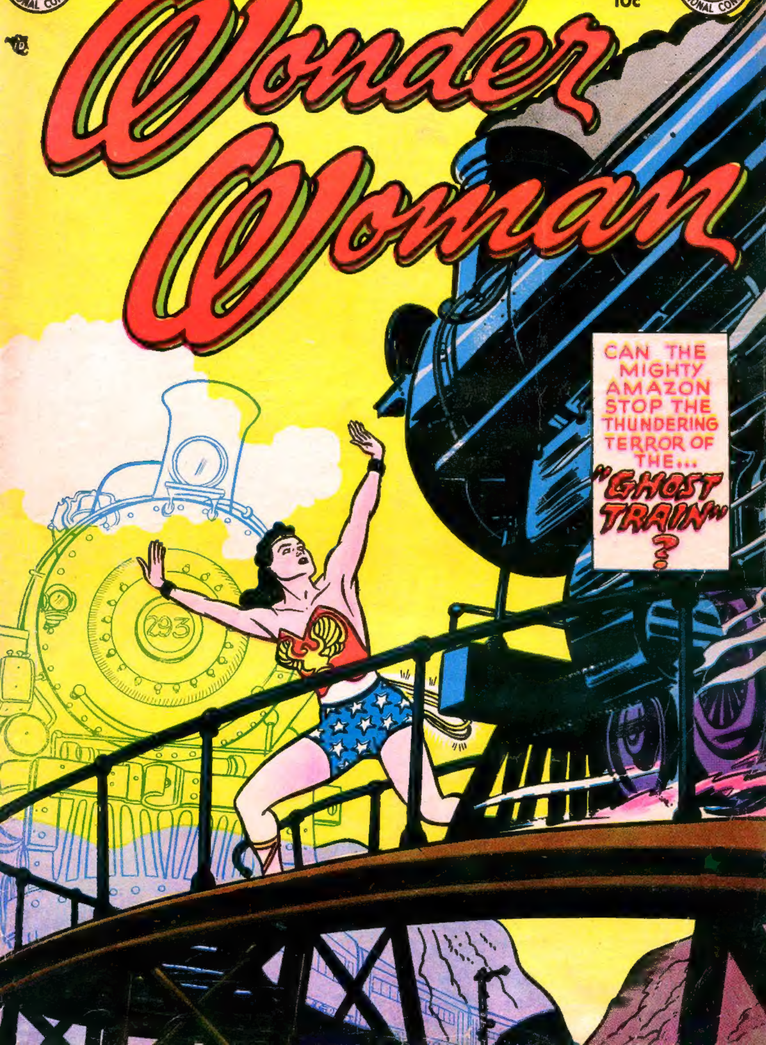
Wonder Woman


CAN THE MIGHTY AMAZON STOP THE THUNDERING TERROR OF THE... "GHOST TRAIN"?
293

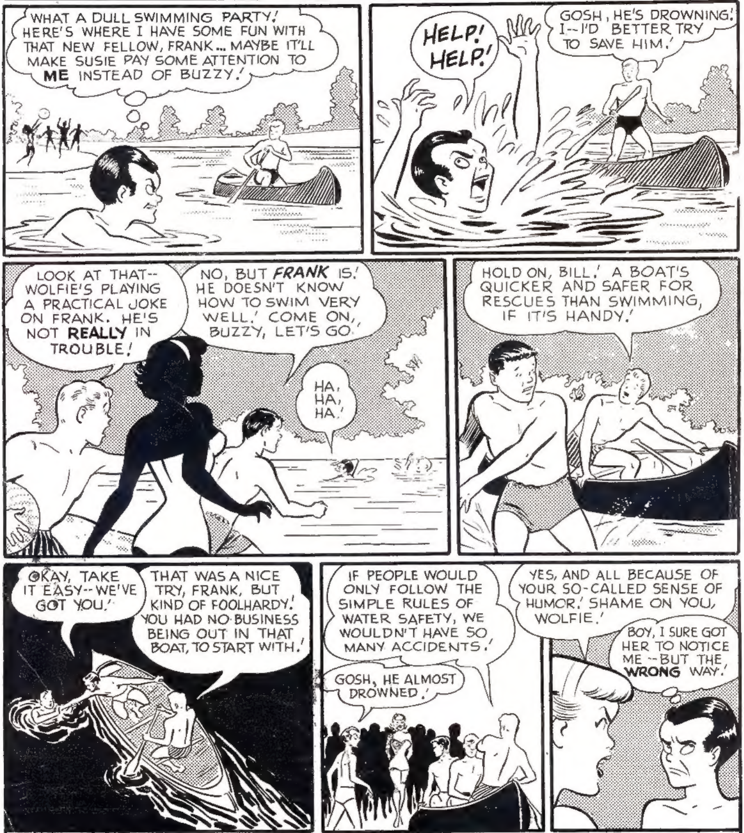
BUZZY'S RULES of WATER SAFETY!

SWIMMING

DON'T SWIM WHEN YOU'RE TIRED.
ALWAYS SWIM WITH OTHERS.
DON'T CALL FOR HELP AS A JOKE.

BOATING

DON'T OVERLOAD THE BOAT. DON'T CHANGE PLACES OR ROCK THE BOAT. DON'T GO WITHOUT LIFE PRESERVERS OR SOMEONE WHO KNOWS HOW TO SWIM


WHAT A DULL SWIMMING PARTY! HERE'S WHERE I HAVE SOME FUN WITH THAT NEW FELLOW, FRANK... MAYBE IT'LL MAKE SUSIE PAY SOME ATTENTION TO **ME** INSTEAD OF BUZZY!
HELP! HELP!
GOSH, HE'S DROWNING! I--I'D BETTER TRY TO SAVE HIM!
LOOK AT THAT-- WOLFIE'S PLAYING A PRACTICAL JOKE ON FRANK. HE'S NOT **REALLY** IN TROUBLE!
NO, BUT *FRANK* IS! HE DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO SWIM VERY WELL! COME ON, BUZZY, LET'S GO!
HA, HA, HA!
HOLD ON, BILL! A BOAT'S QUICKER AND SAFER FOR RESCUES THAN SWIMMING, IF IT'S HANDY!
OKAY, TAKE IT EASY--WE'VE GOT YOU!
THAT WAS A NICE TRY, FRANK, BUT KIND OF FOOLHARDY! YOU HAD NO BUSINESS BEING OUT IN THAT BOAT, TO START WITH!
IF PEOPLE WOULD ONLY FOLLOW THE SIMPLE RULES OF WATER SAFETY, WE WOULDN'T HAVE SO MANY ACCIDENTS!
GOSH, HE ALMOST DROWNED!
YES, AND ALL BECAUSE OF YOUR SO-CALLED SENSE OF HUMOR! SHAME ON YOU, WOLFIE!
BOY, I SURE GOT HER TO NOTICE ME --BUT THE **WRONG** WAY!

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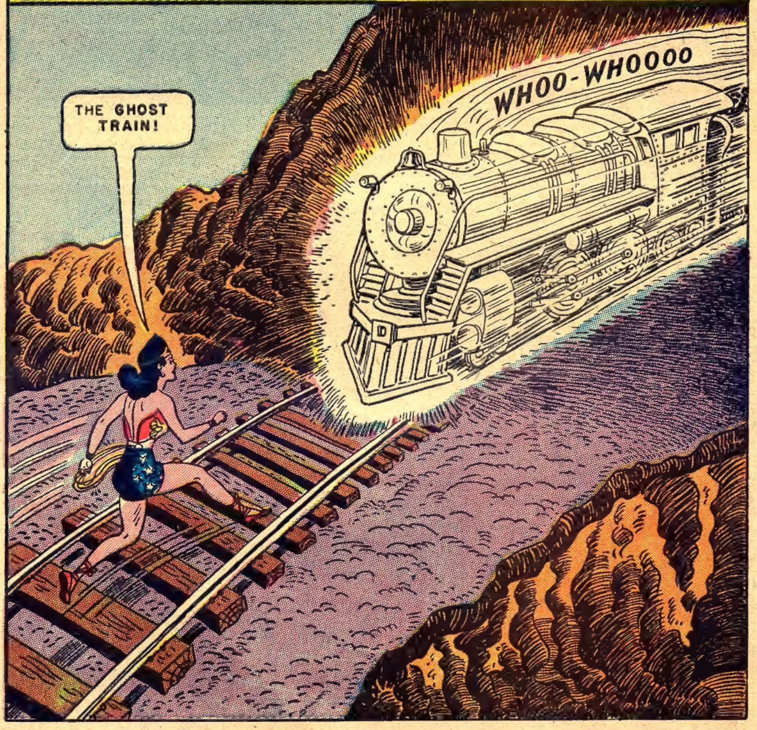
Wonder Woman

By CHARLES MOULTON

HOW CAN TWO TRAINS THUNDER TOWARD EACH OTHER ON A SINGLE TRACK--AND NOT CRASH? CAN A SINGLE GLANCE AT A PHANTOM TRAIN CAUSE DEATH? THOSE ARE THE BAFFLING QUESTIONS WONDER WOMAN—BEAUTIFUL AS APHRODITE, WISE AS ATHENA, STRONGER THAN HERCULES, AND SWIFTER THAN MERCURY—MUST ANSWER BEFORE SHE CAN SAVE AMERICA FROM A DEMORALIZING ATTACK FROM THE AWESOME FREIGHT CARRIED BY THE---

"GHOST TRAIN!"



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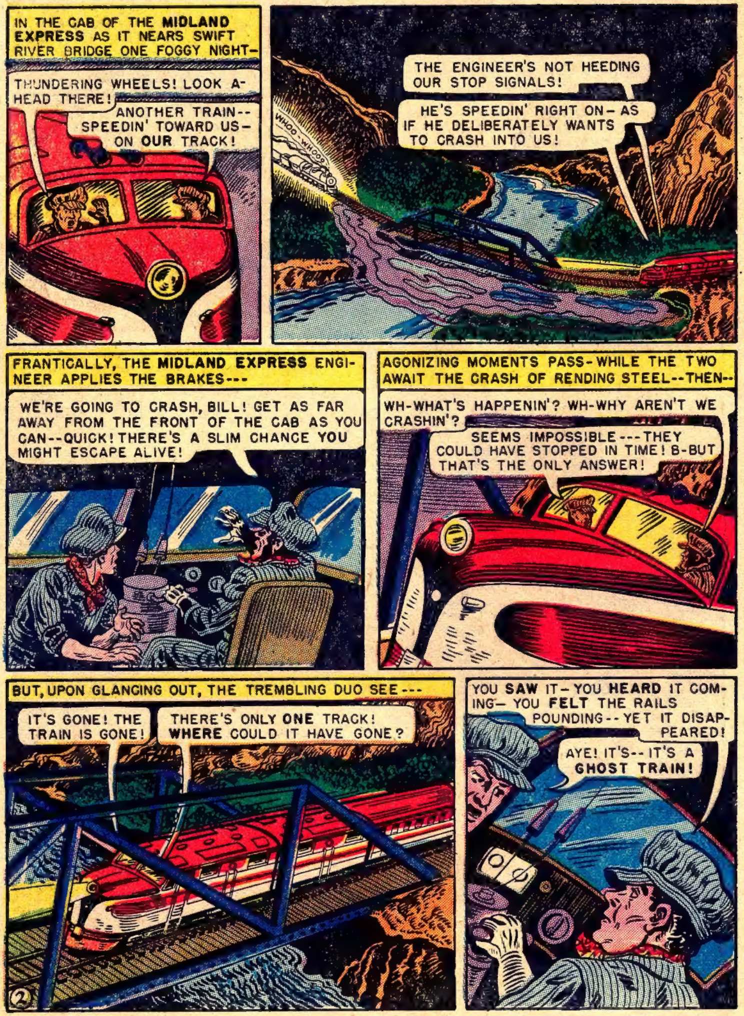
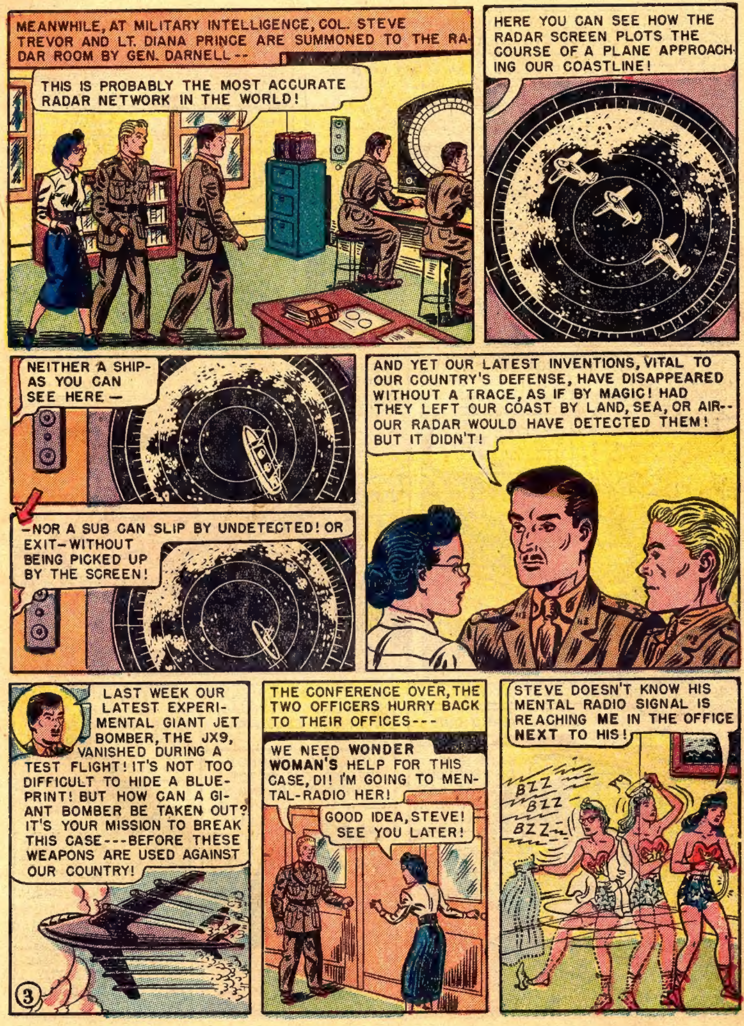
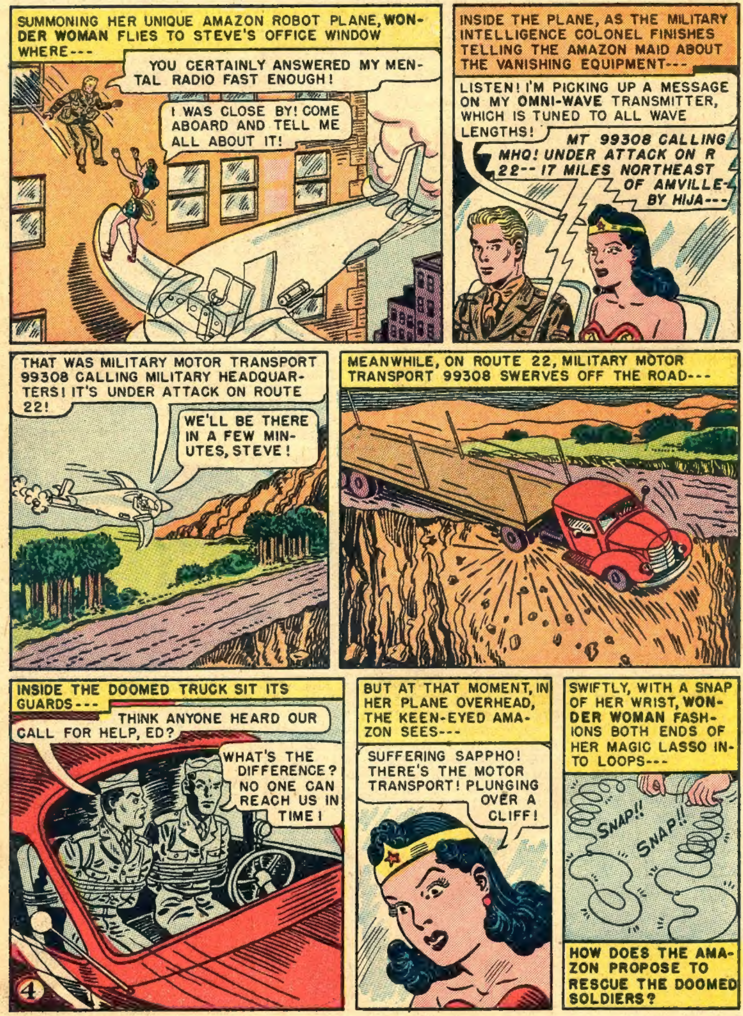
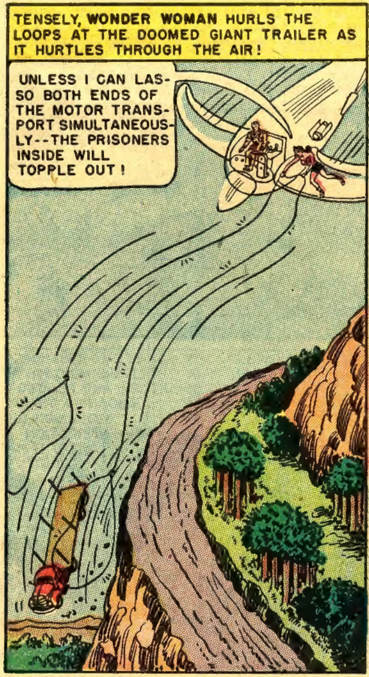
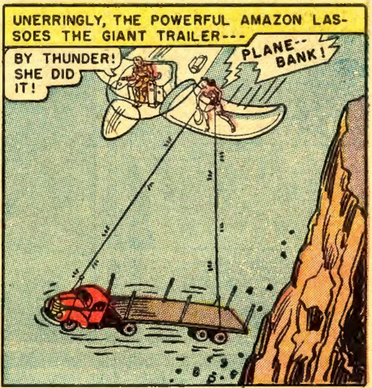
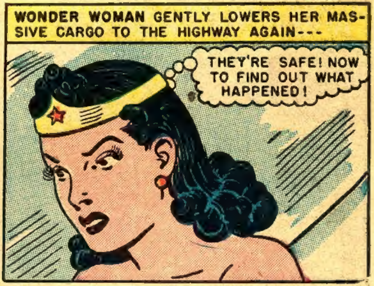

IN THE CAB OF THE MIDLAND EXPRESS AS IT NEARS SWIFT RIVER BRIDGE ONE FOGGY NIGHT--
THUNDERING WHEELS! LOOK AHEAD THERE!
ANOTHER TRAIN-- SPEEDIN' TOWARD US-- ON OUR TRACK!
WHOO-WHOOO
THE ENGINEER'S NOT HEEDING OUR STOP SIGNALS!
HE'S SPEEDIN' RIGHT ON-- AS IF HE DELIBERATELY WANTS TO CRASH INTO US!
FRANTICALLY, THE MIDLAND EXPRESS ENGINEER APPLIES THE BRAKES---
WE'RE GOING TO CRASH, BILL! GET AS FAR AWAY FROM THE FRONT OF THE CAB AS YOU CAN--QUICK! THERE'S A SLIM CHANCE YOU MIGHT ESCAPE ALIVE!
AGONIZING MOMENTS PASS-- WHILE THE TWO AWAIT THE CRASH OF RENDING STEEL--THEN--
WH-WHAT'S HAPPENIN'? WH-WHY AREN'T WE CRASHIN'?
SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE---THEY COULD HAVE STOPPED IN TIME! B-BUT THAT'S THE ONLY ANSWER!
BUT, UPON GLANCING OUT, THE TREMBLING DUO SEE---
IT'S GONE! THE TRAIN IS GONE!
THERE'S ONLY ONE TRACK! WHERE COULD IT HAVE GONE?
YOU SAW IT-- YOU HEARD IT COMING-- YOU FELT THE RAILS POUNDING--YET IT DISAPPEARED!
AYE! IT'S-- IT'S A GHOST TRAIN!

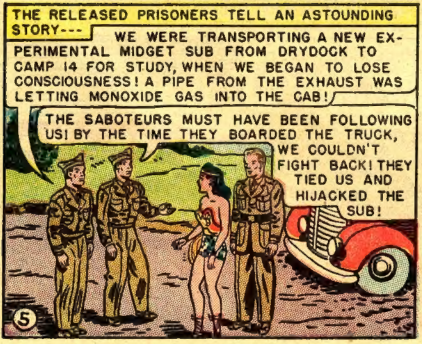

MEANWHILE, AT MILITARY INTELLIGENCE, COL. STEVE TREVOR AND LT. DIANA PRINCE ARE SUMMONED TO THE RADAR ROOM BY GEN. DARNELL --
THIS IS PROBABLY THE MOST ACCURATE RADAR NETWORK IN THE WORLD!
HERE YOU CAN SEE HOW THE RADAR SCREEN PLOTS THE COURSE OF A PLANE APPROACHING OUR COASTLINE!
NEITHER A SHIP-AS YOU CAN SEE HERE —
-NOR A SUB CAN SLIP BY UNDETECTED! OR EXIT-WITHOUT BEING PICKED UP BY THE SCREEN!
AND YET OUR LATEST INVENTIONS, VITAL TO OUR COUNTRY'S DEFENSE, HAVE DISAPPEARED WITHOUT A TRACE, AS IF BY MAGIC! HAD THEY LEFT OUR COAST BY LAND, SEA, OR AIR--OUR RADAR WOULD HAVE DETECTED THEM! BUT IT DIDN'T!
LAST WEEK OUR LATEST EXPERIMENTAL GIANT JET BOMBER, THE JX9, VANISHED DURING A TEST FLIGHT! IT'S NOT TOO DIFFICULT TO HIDE A BLUEPRINT! BUT HOW CAN A GIANT BOMBER BE TAKEN OUT? IT'S YOUR MISSION TO BREAK THIS CASE---BEFORE THESE WEAPONS ARE USED AGAINST OUR COUNTRY!
3
THE CONFERENCE OVER, THE TWO OFFICERS HURRY BACK TO THEIR OFFICES---
WE NEED WONDER WOMAN'S HELP FOR THIS CASE, DI! I'M GOING TO MENTAL-RADIO HER!
GOOD IDEA, STEVE! SEE YOU LATER!
STEVE DOESN'T KNOW HIS MENTAL RADIO SIGNAL IS REACHING ME IN THE OFFICE NEXT TO HIS!
BZZ
BZZ
BZZ

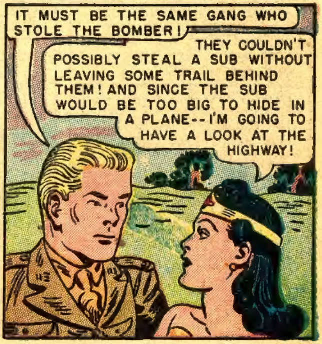

SUMMONING HER UNIQUE AMAZON ROBOT PLANE, WONDER WOMAN FLIES TO STEVE'S OFFICE WINDOW WHERE---
YOU CERTAINLY ANSWERED MY MENTAL RADIO FAST ENOUGH!
I WAS CLOSE BY! COME ABOARD AND TELL ME ALL ABOUT IT!
INSIDE THE PLANE, AS THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE COLONEL FINISHES TELLING THE AMAZON MAID ABOUT THE VANISHING EQUIPMENT---
LISTEN! I'M PICKING UP A MESSAGE ON MY OMNI-WAVE TRANSMITTER, WHICH IS TUNED TO ALL WAVE LENGTHS!
MT 99308 CALLING MHQ! UNDER ATTACK ON R 22-- 17 MILES NORTHEAST OF AMVILLE-- BY HIJA---
THAT WAS MILITARY MOTOR TRANSPORT 99308 CALLING MILITARY HEADQUARTERS! IT'S UNDER ATTACK ON ROUTE 22!
WE'LL BE THERE IN A FEW MINUTES, STEVE!
MEANWHILE, ON ROUTE 22, MILITARY MOTOR TRANSPORT 99308 SWERVES OFF THE ROAD---
INSIDE THE DOOMED TRUCK SIT ITS GUARDS---
THINK ANYONE HEARD OUR CALL FOR HELP, ED?
WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE? NO ONE CAN REACH US IN TIME!
BUT AT THAT MOMENT, IN HER PLANE OVERHEAD, THE KEEN-EYED AMAZON SEES---
SUFFERING SAPPHO! THERE'S THE MOTOR TRANSPORT! PLUNGING OVER A CLIFF!
SWIFTLY, WITH A SNAP OF HER WRIST, WONDER WOMAN FASHIONS BOTH ENDS OF HER MAGIC LASSO INTO LOOPS---
SNAP!!
SNAP!!
HOW DOES THE AMAZON PROPOSE TO RESCUE THE DOOMED SOLDIERS?

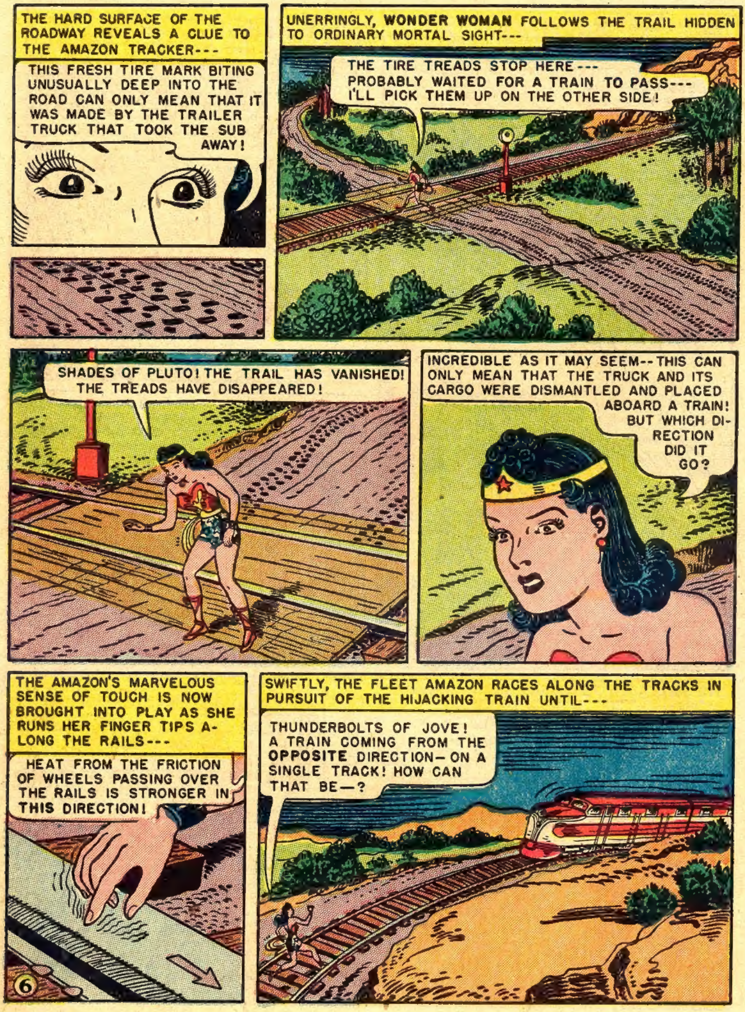

TENSELY, WONDER WOMAN HURLS THE LOOPS AT THE DOOMED GIANT TRAILER AS IT HURTLES THROUGH THE AIR!
UNLESS I CAN LASSO BOTH ENDS OF THE MOTOR TRANSPORT SIMULTANEOUSLY--THE PRISONERS INSIDE WILL TOPPLE OUT!

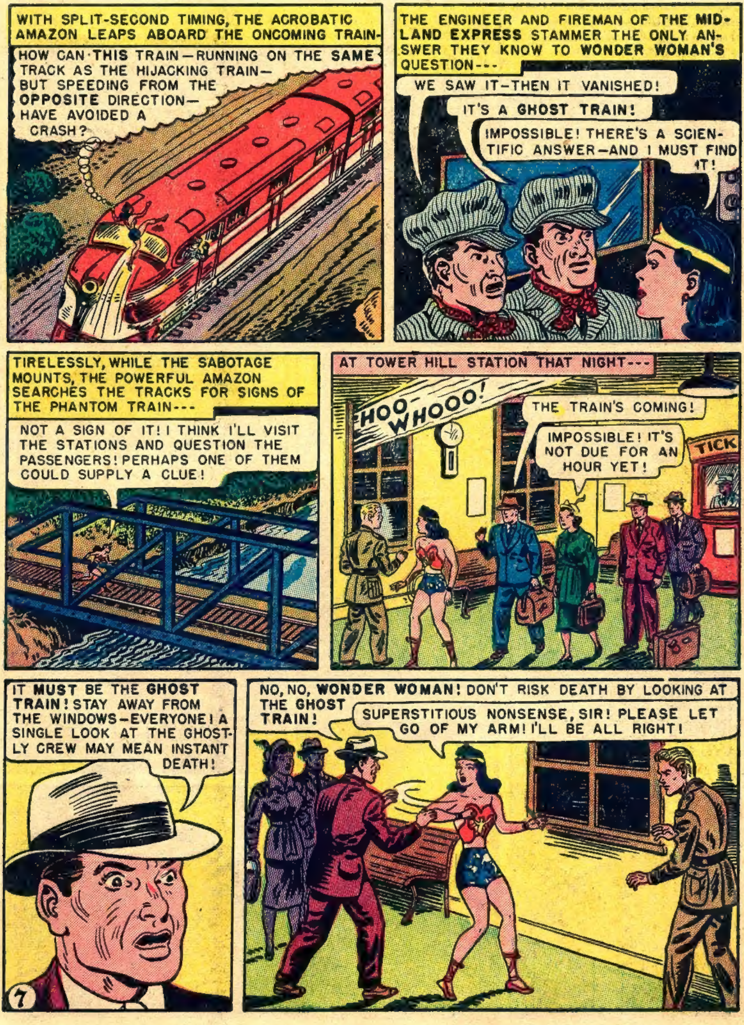

UNERRINGLY, THE POWERFUL AMAZON LASSOES THE GIANT TRAILER---
BY THUNDER! SHE DID IT!
PLANE-- BANK!

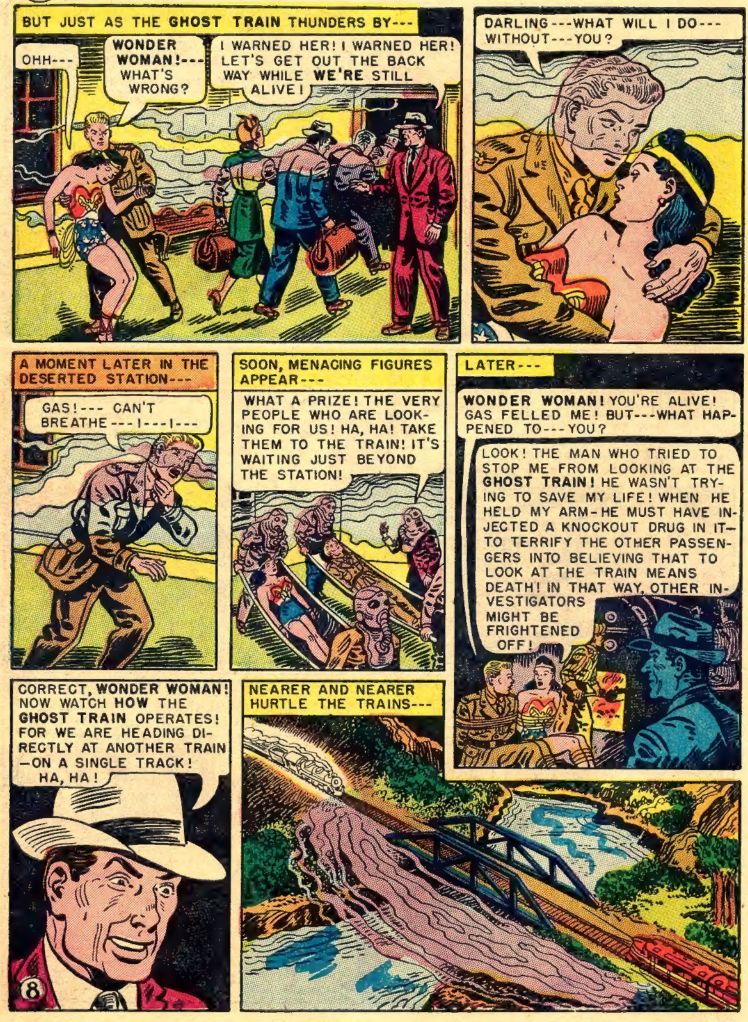

WONDER WOMAN GENTLY LOWERS HER MASSIVE CARGO TO THE HIGHWAY AGAIN---
THEY'RE SAFE! NOW TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED!

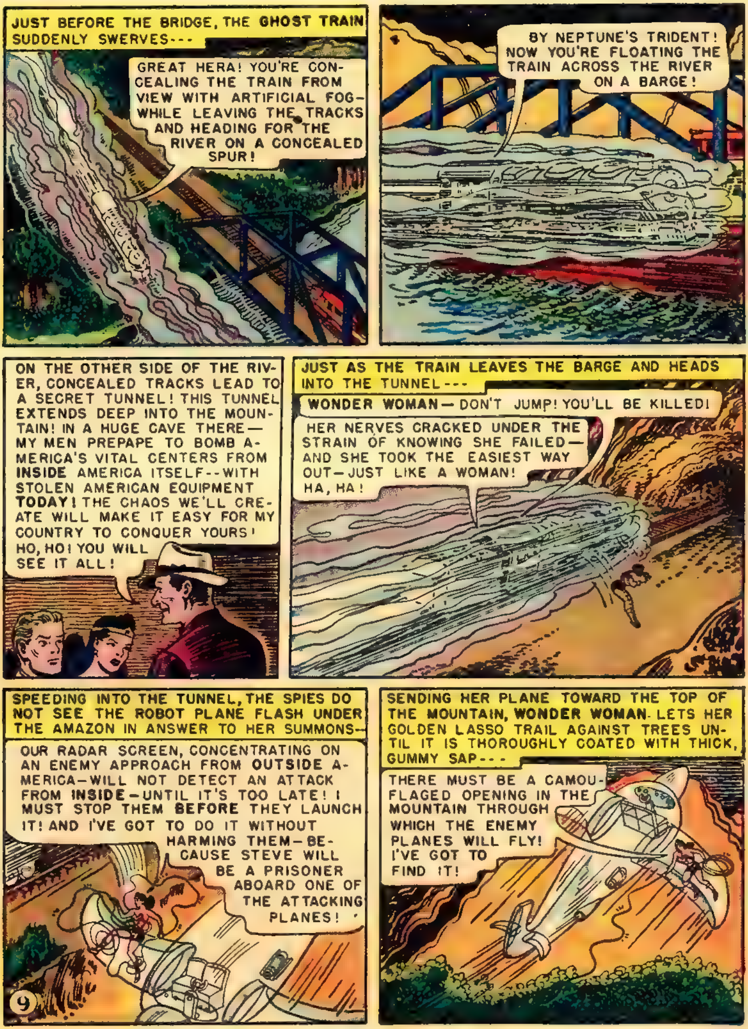

THE RELEASED PRISONERS TELL AN ASTOUNDING STORY---
WE WERE TRANSPORTING A NEW EXPERIMENTAL MIDGET SUB FROM DRYDOCK TO CAMP 14 FOR STUDY, WHEN WE BEGAN TO LOSE CONSCIOUSNESS! A PIPE FROM THE EXHAUST WAS LETTING MONOXIDE GAS INTO THE CAB!
THE SABOTEURS MUST HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING US! BY THE TIME THEY BOARDED THE TRUCK, WE COULDN'T FIGHT BACK! THEY TIED US AND HIJACKED THE SUB!
5

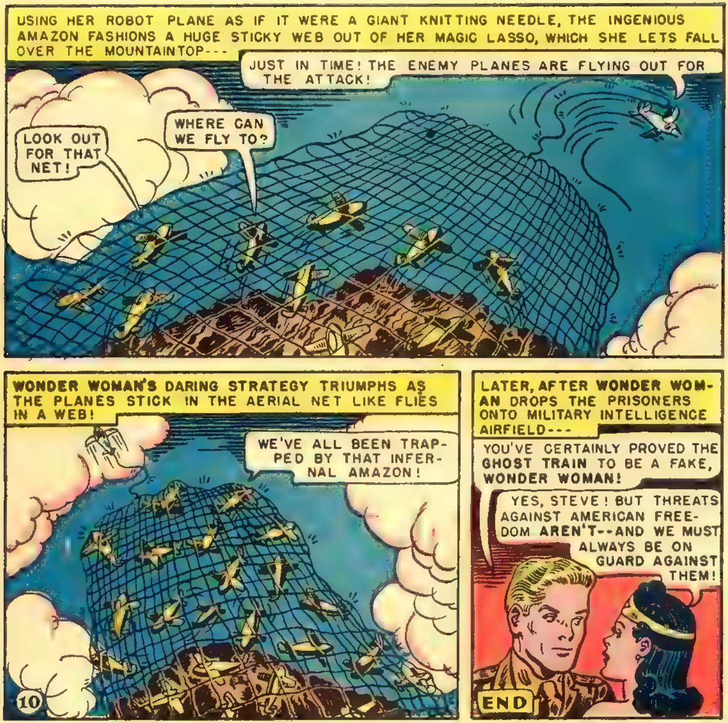

IT MUST BE THE SAME GANG WHO STOLE THE BOMBER!
THEY COULDN'T POSSIBLY STEAL A SUB WITHOUT LEAVING SOME TRAIL BEHIND THEM! AND SINCE THE SUB WOULD BE TOO BIG TO HIDE IN A PLANE--I'M GOING TO HAVE A LOOK AT THE HIGHWAY!


THE HARD SURFACE OF THE ROADWAY REVEALS A CLUE TO THE AMAZON TRACKER---
THIS FRESH TIRE MARK BITING UNUSUALLY DEEP INTO THE ROAD CAN ONLY MEAN THAT IT WAS MADE BY THE TRAILER TRUCK THAT TOOK THE SUB AWAY!
UNERRINGLY, WONDER WOMAN FOLLOWS THE TRAIL HIDDEN TO ORDINARY MORTAL SIGHT---
THE TIRE TREADS STOP HERE--- PROBABLY WAITED FOR A TRAIN TO PASS--- I'LL PICK THEM UP ON THE OTHER SIDE!
SHADES OF PLUTO! THE TRAIL HAS VANISHED! THE TREADS HAVE DISAPPEARED!
INCREDIBLE AS IT MAY SEEM--THIS CAN ONLY MEAN THAT THE TRUCK AND ITS CARGO WERE DISMANTLED AND PLACED ABOARD A TRAIN! BUT WHICH DIRECTION DID IT GO?
THE AMAZON'S MARVELOUS SENSE OF TOUCH IS NOW BROUGHT INTO PLAY AS SHE RUNS HER FINGER TIPS ALONG THE RAILS---
HEAT FROM THE FRICTION OF WHEELS PASSING OVER THE RAILS IS STRONGER IN THIS DIRECTION!
SWIFTLY, THE FLEET AMAZON RACES ALONG THE TRACKS IN PURSUIT OF THE HIJACKING TRAIN UNTIL---
THUNDERBOLTS OF JOVE! A TRAIN COMING FROM THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION—ON A SINGLE TRACK! HOW CAN THAT BE—?


WITH SPLIT-SECOND TIMING, THE ACROBATIC AMAZON LEAPS ABOARD THE ONCOMING TRAIN-
HOW CAN THIS TRAIN—RUNNING ON THE SAME TRACK AS THE HIJACKING TRAIN—BUT SPEEDING FROM THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION—HAVE AVOIDED A CRASH?
THE ENGINEER AND FIREMAN OF THE MIDLAND EXPRESS STAMMER THE ONLY ANSWER THEY KNOW TO WONDER WOMAN'S QUESTION---
WE SAW IT—THEN IT VANISHED!
IT'S A GHOST TRAIN!
IMPOSSIBLE! THERE'S A SCIENTIFIC ANSWER—AND I MUST FIND IT!
TIRELESSLY, WHILE THE SABOTAGE MOUNTS, THE POWERFUL AMAZON SEARCHES THE TRACKS FOR SIGNS OF THE PHANTOM TRAIN---
NOT A SIGN OF IT! I THINK I'LL VISIT THE STATIONS AND QUESTION THE PASSENGERS! PERHAPS ONE OF THEM COULD SUPPLY A CLUE!
AT TOWER HILL STATION THAT NIGHT---
HOO-WHOOO!
THE TRAIN'S COMING!
IMPOSSIBLE! IT'S NOT DUE FOR AN HOUR YET!
TICK
IT MUST BE THE GHOST TRAIN! STAY AWAY FROM THE WINDOWS—EVERYONE! A SINGLE LOOK AT THE GHOSTLY CREW MAY MEAN INSTANT DEATH!
NO, NO, WONDER WOMAN! DON'T RISK DEATH BY LOOKING AT THE GHOST TRAIN!
SUPERSTITIOUS NONSENSE, SIR! PLEASE LET GO OF MY ARM! I'LL BE ALL RIGHT!


BUT JUST AS THE **GHOST TRAIN** THUNDERS BY---
OHH---
WONDER WOMAN!--- WHAT'S WRONG?
I WARNED HER! I WARNED HER! LET'S GET OUT THE BACK WAY WHILE **WE'RE** STILL ALIVE!
DARLING---WHAT WILL I DO--- WITHOUT---YOU?
A MOMENT LATER IN THE DESERTED STATION---
GAS!--- CAN'T BREATHE---I---I---
SOON, MENACING FIGURES APPEAR---
WHAT A PRIZE! THE VERY PEOPLE WHO ARE LOOKING FOR US! HA, HA! TAKE THEM TO THE TRAIN! IT'S WAITING JUST BEYOND THE STATION!
LATER---
WONDER WOMAN! YOU'RE ALIVE! GAS FELLED ME! BUT---WHAT HAPPENED TO---YOU?
LOOK! THE MAN WHO TRIED TO STOP ME FROM LOOKING AT THE **GHOST TRAIN!** HE WASN'T TRYING TO SAVE MY LIFE! WHEN HE HELD MY ARM-HE MUST HAVE INJECTED A KNOCKOUT DRUG IN IT-TO TERRIFY THE OTHER PASSENGERS INTO BELIEVING THAT TO LOOK AT THE TRAIN MEANS DEATH! IN THAT WAY, OTHER INVESTIGATORS MIGHT BE FRIGHTENED OFF!
CORRECT, **WONDER WOMAN!** NOW WATCH **HOW** THE **GHOST TRAIN** OPERATES! FOR WE ARE HEADING DIRECTLY AT ANOTHER TRAIN—ON A SINGLE TRACK! HA, HA!
NEARER AND NEARER HURTLE THE TRAINS---


JUST BEFORE THE BRIDGE, THE GHOST TRAIN SUDDENLY SWERVES---
GREAT HERA! YOU'RE CONCEALING THE TRAIN FROM VIEW WITH ARTIFICIAL FOG—WHILE LEAVING THE TRACKS AND HEADING FOR THE RIVER ON A CONCEALED SPUR!
BY NEPTUNE'S TRIDENT! NOW YOU'RE FLOATING THE TRAIN ACROSS THE RIVER ON A BARGE!
ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER, CONCEALED TRACKS LEAD TO A SECRET TUNNEL! THIS TUNNEL EXTENDS DEEP INTO THE MOUNTAIN! IN A HUGE CAVE THERE— MY MEN PREPAPE TO BOMB AMERICA'S VITAL CENTERS FROM INSIDE AMERICA ITSELF--WITH STOLEN AMERICAN EQUIPMENT TODAY! THE CHAOS WE'LL CREATE WILL MAKE IT EASY FOR MY COUNTRY TO CONQUER YOURS! HO, HO! YOU WILL SEE IT ALL!
JUST AS THE TRAIN LEAVES THE BARGE AND HEADS INTO THE TUNNEL---
WONDER WOMAN— DON'T JUMP! YOU'LL BE KILLED!
HER NERVES CRACKED UNDER THE STRAIN OF KNOWING SHE FAILED— AND SHE TOOK THE EASIEST WAY OUT— JUST LIKE A WOMAN! HA, HA!
SPEEDING INTO THE TUNNEL, THE SPIES DO NOT SEE THE ROBOT PLANE FLASH UNDER THE AMAZON IN ANSWER TO HER SUMMONS--
OUR RADAR SCREEN, CONCENTRATING ON AN ENEMY APPROACH FROM OUTSIDE AMERICA—WILL NOT DETECT AN ATTACK FROM INSIDE—UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE! I MUST STOP THEM BEFORE THEY LAUNCH IT! AND I'VE GOT TO DO IT WITHOUT HARMING THEM—BECAUSE STEVE WILL BE A PRISONER ABOARD ONE OF THE ATTACKING PLANES!
9
SENDING HER PLANE TOWARD THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN, WONDER WOMAN LETS HER GOLDEN LASSO TRAIL AGAINST TREES UNTIL IT IS THOROUGHLY COATED WITH THICK, GUMMY SAP---
THERE MUST BE A CAMOUFLAGED OPENING IN THE MOUNTAIN THROUGH WHICH THE ENEMY PLANES WILL FLY! I'VE GOT TO FIND IT!


USING HER ROBOT PLANE AS IF IT WERE A GIANT KNITTING NEEDLE, THE INGENIOUS AMAZON FASHIONS A HUGE STICKY WEB OUT OF HER MAGIC LASSO, WHICH SHE LETS FALL OVER THE MOUNTAINTOP---
JUST IN TIME! THE ENEMY PLANES ARE FLYING OUT FOR THE ATTACK!
LOOK OUT FOR THAT NET!
WHERE CAN WE FLY TO?
WONDER WOMAN'S DARING STRATEGY TRIUMPHS AS THE PLANES STICK IN THE AERIAL NET LIKE FLIES IN A WEB!
WE'VE ALL BEEN TRAPPED BY THAT INFERNAL AMAZON!
LATER, AFTER WONDER WOMAN DROPS THE PRISONERS ONTO MILITARY INTELLIGENCE AIRFIELD---
YOU'VE CERTAINLY PROVED THE GHOST TRAIN TO BE A FAKE, WONDER WOMAN!
YES, STEVE! BUT THREATS AGAINST AMERICAN FREEDOM AREN'T--AND WE MUST ALWAYS BE ON GUARD AGAINST THEM!
END

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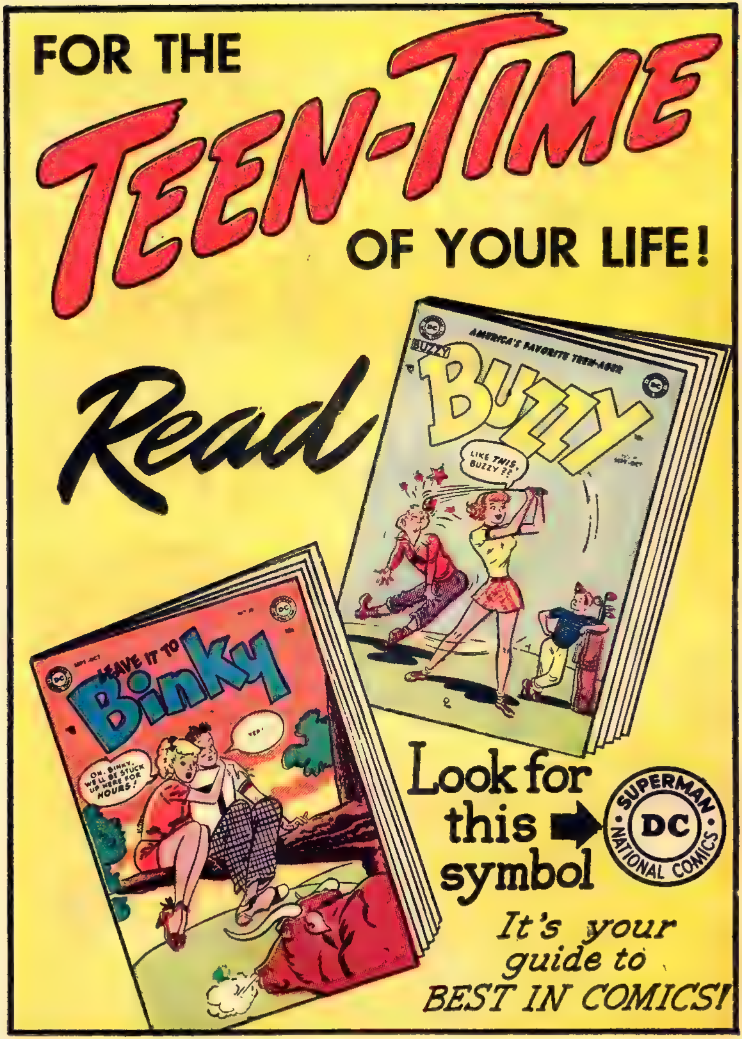
GLEAMS AS IT CLEANS—CLEANS AS IT GLEAMS!


FOR THE
TEEN-TIME
OF YOUR LIFE!
Read
AMERICA'S FAVORITE TEEN-AGER
BUZZY
LIKE THIS, BUZZY ??
LEAVE IT TO Binky
YEP!
OH, BINKY, WE'LL BE STUCK UP HERE FOR HOURS!
Look for this symbol
SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS
It's your guide to BEST IN COMICS!

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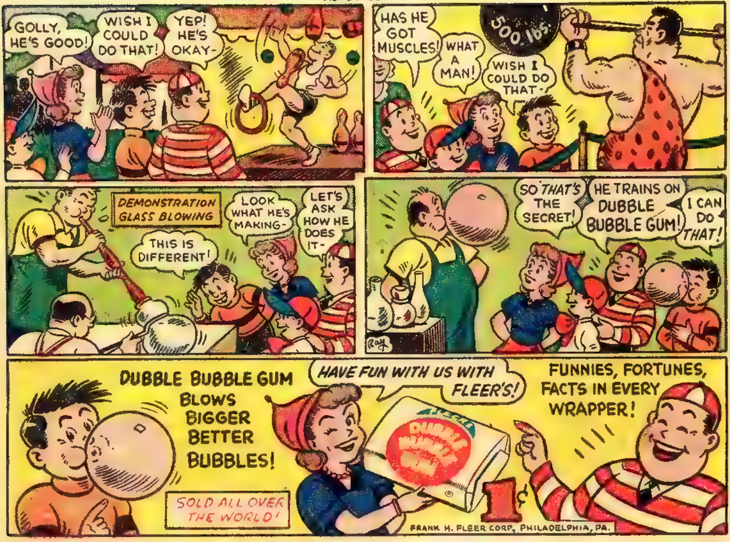
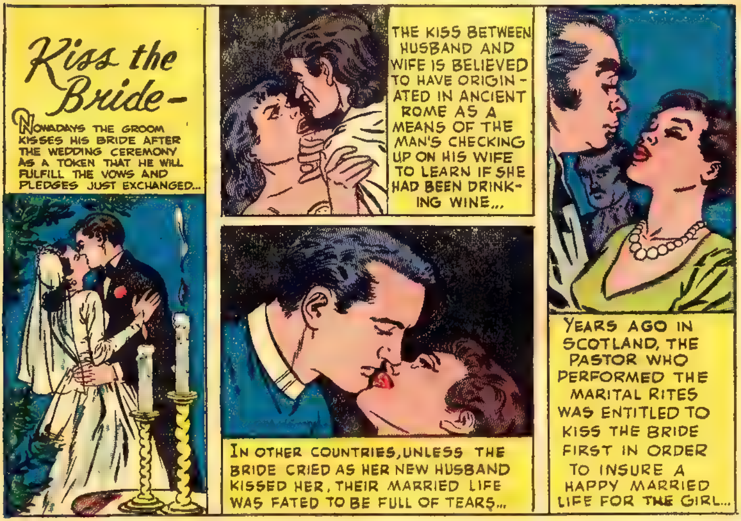

GOLLY, HE'S GOOD!
WISH I COULD DO THAT!
YEP! HE'S OKAY-
HAS HE GOT MUSCLES!
500 lbs.
WHAT A MAN!
WISH I COULD DO THAT-
DEMONSTRATION GLASS BLOWING
LOOK WHAT HE'S MAKING-
LET'S ASK HOW HE DOES IT-
THIS IS DIFFERENT!
SO THAT'S THE SECRET!
HE TRAINS ON DUBBLE BUBBLE GUM!
I CAN DO THAT!
Ray
DUBBLE BUBBLE GUM BLOWS BIGGER BETTER BUBBLES!
SOLD ALL OVER THE WORLD!
HAVE FUN WITH US WITH FLEER'S!
FLEER'S DUBBLE BUBBLE GUM
1¢
FUNNIES, FORTUNES, FACTS IN EVERY WRAPPER!
FRANK H. FLEER CORP., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Kiss the Bride-



NOWADAYS THE GROOM KISSES HIS BRIDE AFTER THE WEDDING CEREMONY AS A TOKEN THAT HE WILL FULFILL THE VOWS AND PLEDGES JUST EXCHANGED...

THE KISS BETWEEN HUSBAND AND WIFE IS BELIEVED TO HAVE ORIGINATED IN ANCIENT ROME AS A MEANS OF THE MAN'S CHECKING UP ON HIS WIFE TO LEARN IF SHE HAD BEEN DRINKING WINE...

IN OTHER COUNTRIES, UNLESS THE BRIDE CRIED AS HER NEW HUSBAND KISSED HER, THEIR MARRIED LIFE WAS FATED TO BE FULL OF TEARS...

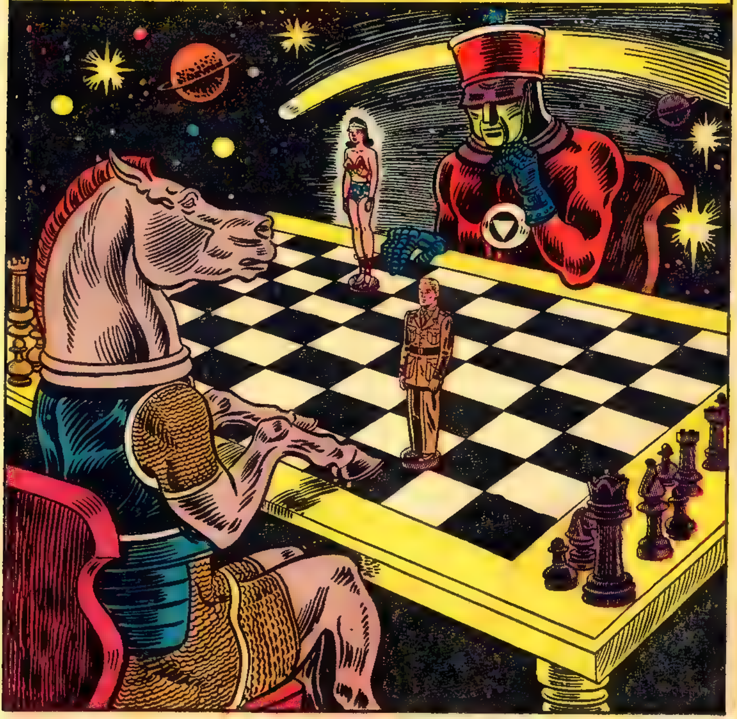
YEARS AGO IN SCOTLAND, THE PASTOR WHO PERFORMED THE MARITAL RITES WAS ENTITLED TO KISS THE BRIDE FIRST IN ORDER TO INSURE A HAPPY MARRIED LIFE FOR THE GIRL...

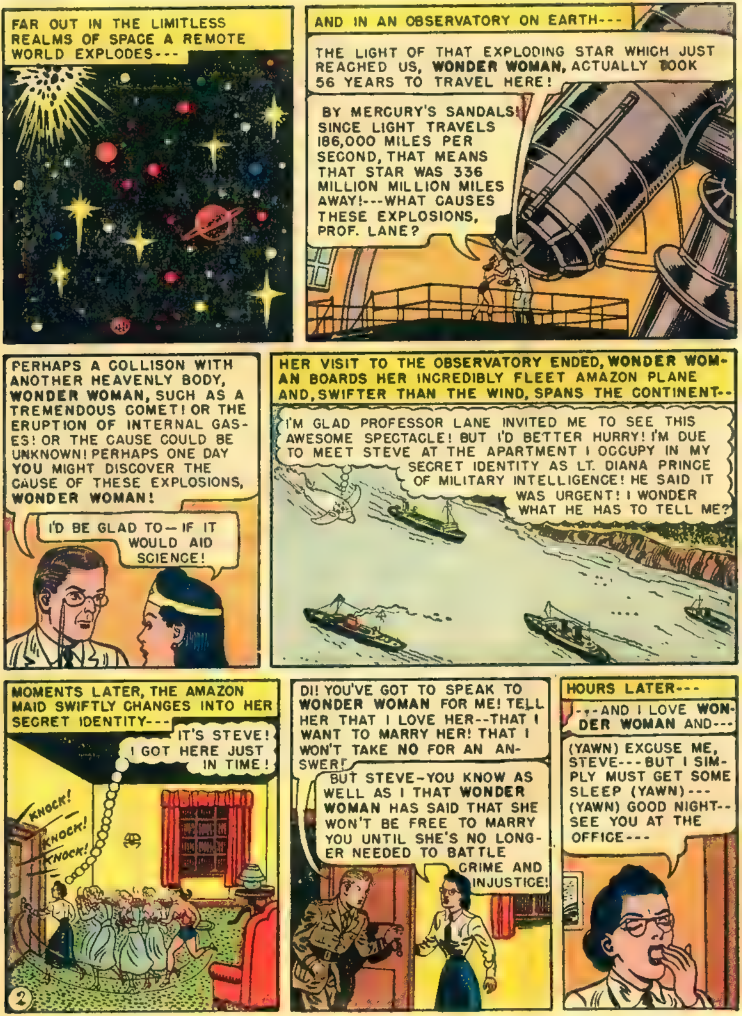
Wonder Woman

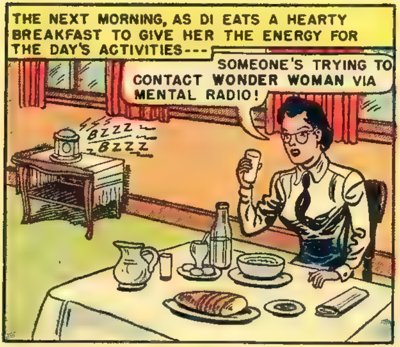
By Charles Moulton

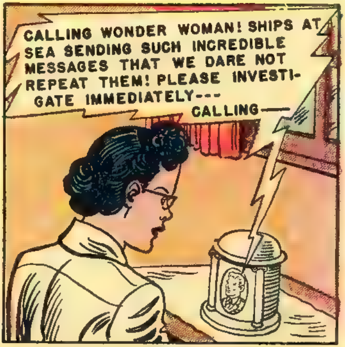
HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A MOUNTAIN MOVE, OR AN OCEAN VANISH? YOU WILL—WHEN YOU FIND EARTH A HELPLESS PAWN IN THE HANDS OF A RUTHLESS FORCE FROM OUTER SPACE! WITH THE WORLD A STEP FROM DISASTER, WONDER WOMAN—BEAUTIFUL AS APHRODITE, WISE AS ATHENA, STRONGER THAN HERCULES, AND SWIFTER THAN MERCURY—ROCKETS TO A LIFELESS PLANET, TO PLAY A GAME OF LIFE AND DEATH WITH---

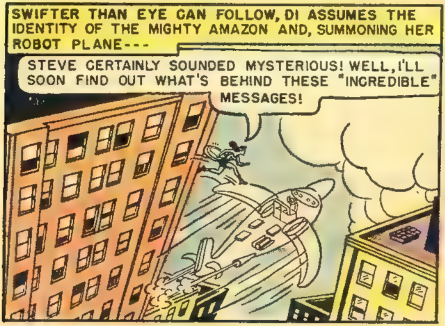
The CHESSMEN of DOOM!

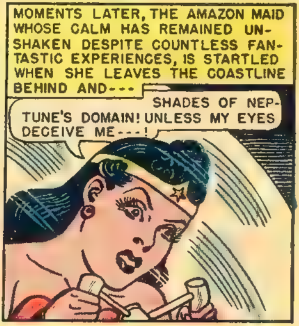


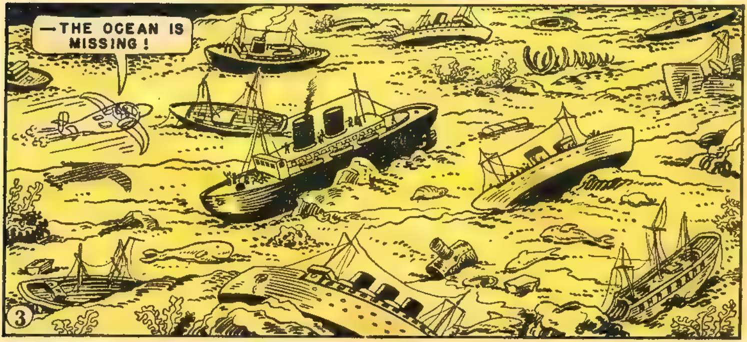

FAR OUT IN THE LIMITLESS REALMS OF SPACE A REMOTE WORLD EXPLODES---
AND IN AN OBSERVATORY ON EARTH---
THE LIGHT OF THAT EXPLODING STAR WHICH JUST REACHED US, WONDER WOMAN, ACTUALLY TOOK 56 YEARS TO TRAVEL HERE!
BY MERCURY'S SANDALS! SINCE LIGHT TRAVELS 186,000 MILES PER SECOND, THAT MEANS THAT STAR WAS 336 MILLION MILLION MILES AWAY!---WHAT CAUSES THESE EXPLOSIONS, PROF. LANE?
PERHAPS A COLLISON WITH ANOTHER HEAVENLY BODY, WONDER WOMAN, SUCH AS A TREMENDOUS COMET! OR THE ERUPTION OF INTERNAL GASES! OR THE CAUSE COULD BE UNKNOWN! PERHAPS ONE DAY YOU MIGHT DISCOVER THE CAUSE OF THESE EXPLOSIONS, WONDER WOMAN!
I'D BE GLAD TO—IF IT WOULD AID SCIENCE!
HER VISIT TO THE OBSERVATORY ENDED, WONDER WOMAN BOARDS HER INCREDIBLY FLEET AMAZON PLANE AND, SWIFTER THAN THE WIND, SPANS THE CONTINENT--
I'M GLAD PROFESSOR LANE INVITED ME TO SEE THIS AWESOME SPECTACLE! BUT I'D BETTER HURRY! I'M DUE TO MEET STEVE AT THE APARTMENT I OCCUPY IN MY SECRET IDENTITY AS LT. DIANA PRINCE OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE! HE SAID IT WAS URGENT! I WONDER WHAT HE HAS TO TELL ME?
MOMENTS LATER, THE AMAZON MAID SWIFTLY CHANGES INTO HER SECRET IDENTITY---
IT'S STEVE! I GOT HERE JUST IN TIME!
KNOCK! KNOCK! KNOCK!
DI! YOU'VE GOT TO SPEAK TO WONDER WOMAN FOR ME! TELL HER THAT I LOVE HER--THAT I WANT TO MARRY HER! THAT I WON'T TAKE NO FOR AN ANSWER!
BUT STEVE—YOU KNOW AS WELL AS I THAT WONDER WOMAN HAS SAID THAT SHE WON'T BE FREE TO MARRY YOU UNTIL SHE'S NO LONGER NEEDED TO BATTLE CRIME AND INJUSTICE!
HOURS LATER---
---AND I LOVE WONDER WOMAN AND---
(YAWN) EXCUSE ME, STEVE---BUT I SIMPLY MUST GET SOME SLEEP (YAWN)---(YAWN) GOOD NIGHT--SEE YOU AT THE OFFICE---

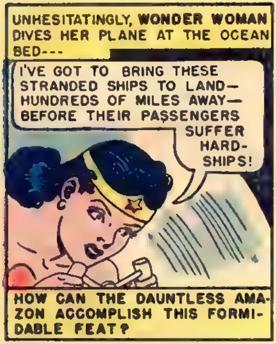

THE NEXT MORNING, AS DI EATS A HEARTY BREAKFAST TO GIVE HER THE ENERGY FOR THE DAY'S ACTIVITIES---
SOMEONE'S TRYING TO CONTACT WONDER WOMAN VIA MENTAL RADIO!
BZZZ BZZZ

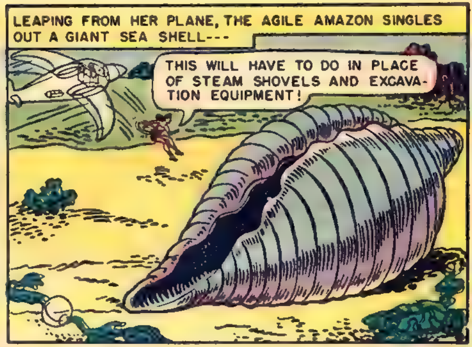

CALLING WONDER WOMAN! SHIPS AT SEA SENDING SUCH INCREDIBLE MESSAGES THAT WE DARE NOT REPEAT THEM! PLEASE INVESTIGATE IMMEDIATELY--- CALLING---

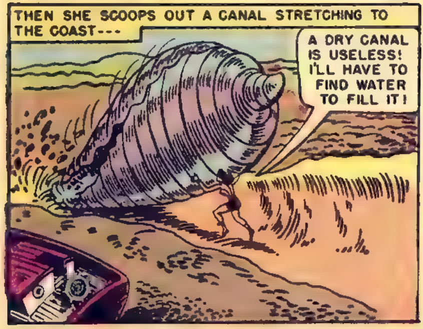

SWIFTER THAN EYE CAN FOLLOW, DI ASSUMES THE IDENTITY OF THE MIGHTY AMAZON AND, SUMMONING HER ROBOT PLANE---
STEVE CERTAINLY SOUNDED MYSTERIOUS! WELL, I'LL SOON FIND OUT WHAT'S BEHIND THESE "INCREDIBLE" MESSAGES!

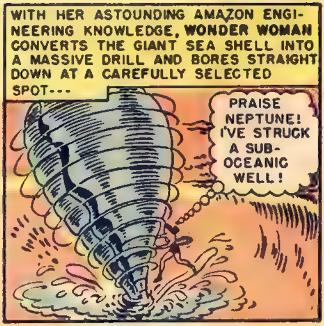

MOMENTS LATER, THE AMAZON MAID WHOSE CALM HAS REMAINED UNSHAKEN DESPITE COUNTLESS FANTASTIC EXPERIENCES, IS STARTLED WHEN SHE LEAVES THE COASTLINE BEHIND AND---
SHADES OF NEPTUNE'S DOMAIN! UNLESS MY EYES DECEIVE ME---!

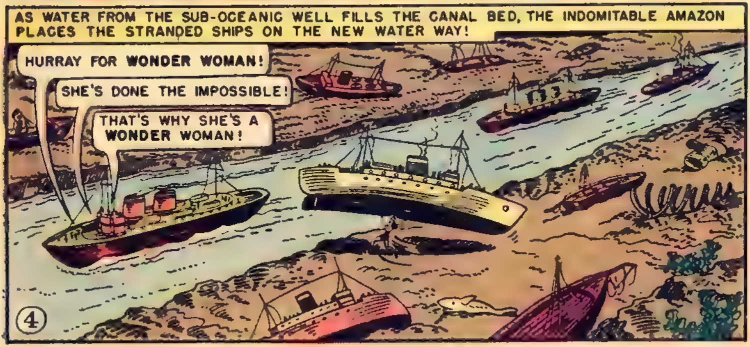

—THE OCEAN IS MISSING!

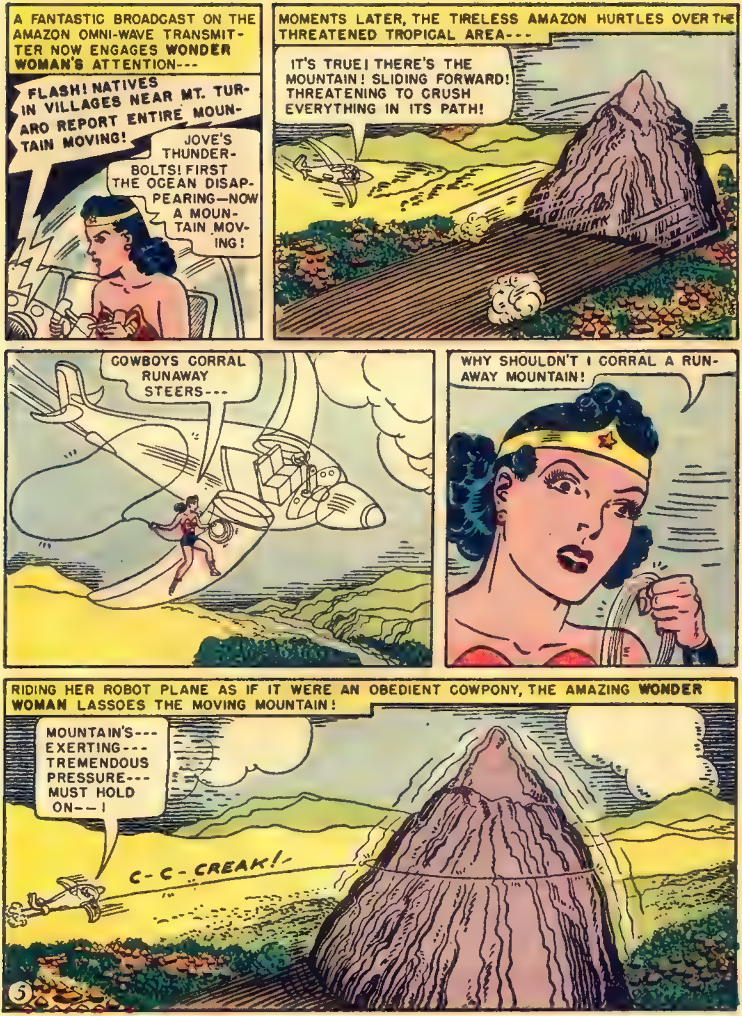

UNHESITATINGLY, WONDER WOMAN DIVES HER PLANE AT THE OCEAN BED---
I'VE GOT TO BRING THESE STRANDED SHIPS TO LAND— HUNDREDS OF MILES AWAY— BEFORE THEIR PASSENGERS SUFFER HARDSHIPS!
HOW CAN THE DAUNTLESS AMAZON ACCOMPLISH THIS FORMIDABLE FEAT?

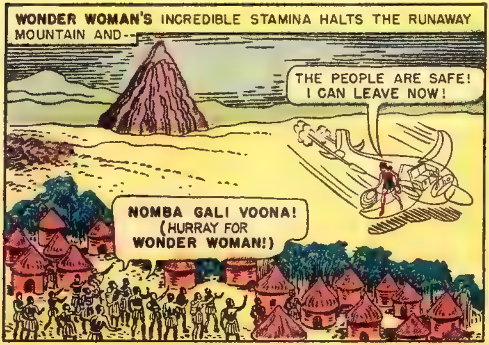

LEAPING FROM HER PLANE, THE AGILE AMAZON SINGLES OUT A GIANT SEA SHELL---
THIS WILL HAVE TO DO IN PLACE OF STEAM SHOVELS AND EXCAVATION EQUIPMENT!

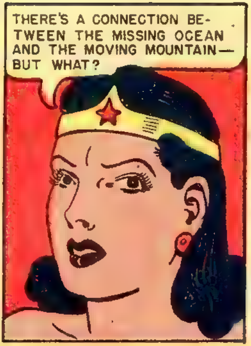

THEN SHE SCOOPS OUT A CANAL STRETCHING TO THE COAST---
A DRY CANAL IS USELESS! I'LL HAVE TO FIND WATER TO FILL IT!

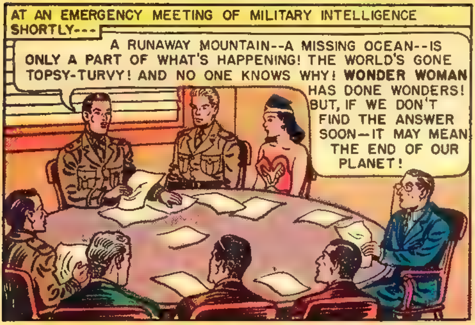

WITH HER ASTOUNDING AMAZON ENGINEERING KNOWLEDGE, WONDER WOMAN CONVERTS THE GIANT SEA SHELL INTO A MASSIVE DRILL AND BORES STRAIGHT DOWN AT A CAREFULLY SELECTED SPOT---
PRAISE NEPTUNE! I'VE STRUCK A SUB-OCEANIC WELL!

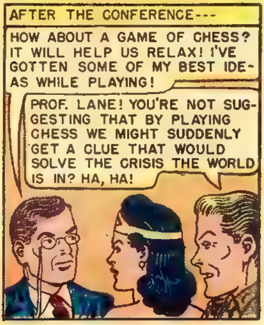

AS WATER FROM THE SUB-OCEANIC WELL FILLS THE CANAL BED, THE INDOMITABLE AMAZON PLACES THE STRANDED SHIPS ON THE NEW WATER WAY!
HURRAY FOR WONDER WOMAN!
SHE'S DONE THE IMPOSSIBLE!
THAT'S WHY SHE'S A WONDER WOMAN!

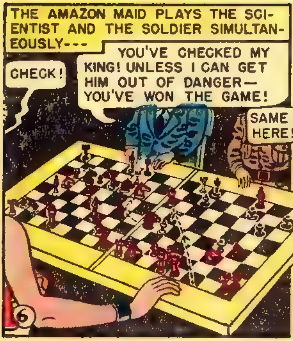

A FANTASTIC BROADCAST ON THE AMAZON OMNI-WAVE TRANSMITTER NOW ENGAGES **WONDER WOMAN'S** ATTENTION---
FLASH! NATIVES IN VILLAGES NEAR MT. TURARO REPORT ENTIRE MOUNTAIN MOVING!
JOVE'S THUNDERBOLTS! FIRST THE OCEAN DISAPPEARING—NOW A MOUNTAIN MOVING!
MOMENTS LATER, THE TIRELESS AMAZON HURTLES OVER THE THREATENED TROPICAL AREA---
IT'S TRUE! THERE'S THE MOUNTAIN! SLIDING FORWARD! THREATENING TO CRUSH EVERYTHING IN ITS PATH!
COWBOYS CORRAL RUNAWAY STEERS---
WHY SHOULDN'T I CORRAL A RUNAWAY MOUNTAIN!
RIDING HER ROBOT PLANE AS IF IT WERE AN OBEDIENT COWPONY, THE AMAZING **WONDER WOMAN** LASSOES THE MOVING MOUNTAIN!
MOUNTAIN'S--- EXERTING--- TREMENDOUS PRESSURE--- MUST HOLD ON--!
C-C-CREAK!

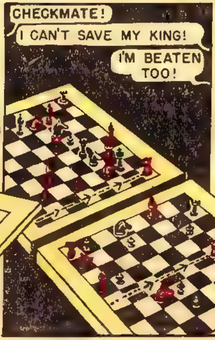

WONDER WOMAN'S INCREDIBLE STAMINA HALTS THE RUNAWAY MOUNTAIN AND--
THE PEOPLE ARE SAFE! I CAN LEAVE NOW!
NOMBA GALI VOONA! (HURRAY FOR WONDER WOMAN!)

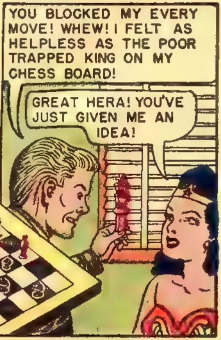

THERE'S A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE MISSING OCEAN AND THE MOVING MOUNTAIN—BUT WHAT?

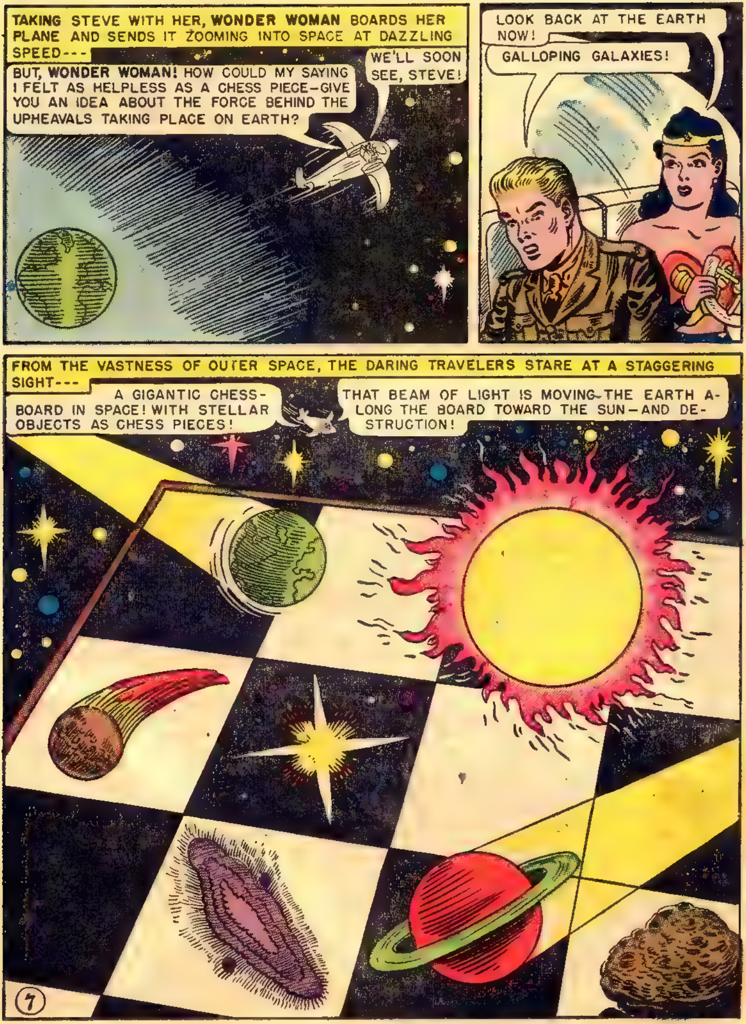

AT AN EMERGENCY MEETING OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SHORTLY---
A RUNAWAY MOUNTAIN--A MISSING OCEAN--IS ONLY A PART OF WHAT'S HAPPENING! THE WORLD'S GONE TOPSY-TURVY! AND NO ONE KNOWS WHY! WONDER WOMAN HAS DONE WONDERS! BUT, IF WE DON'T FIND THE ANSWER SOON—IT MAY MEAN THE END OF OUR PLANET!

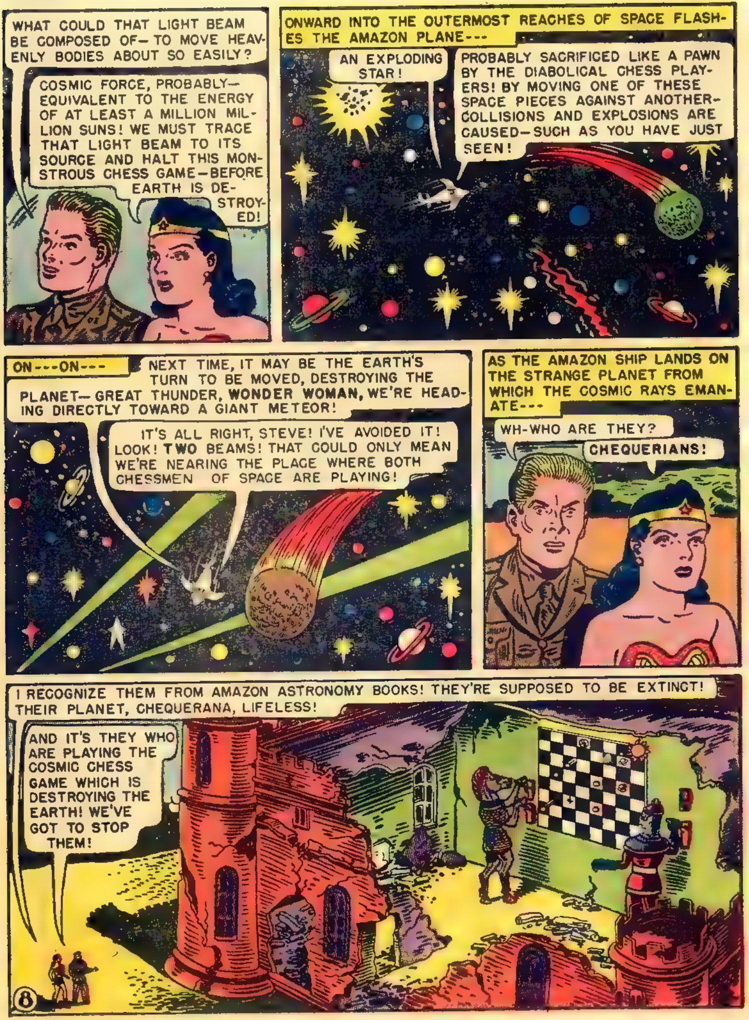

AFTER THE CONFERENCE---
HOW ABOUT A GAME OF CHESS? IT WILL HELP US RELAX! I'VE GOTTEN SOME OF MY BEST IDEAS WHILE PLAYING!
PROF. LANE! YOU'RE NOT SUGGESTING THAT BY PLAYING CHESS WE MIGHT SUDDENLY GET A CLUE THAT WOULD SOLVE THE CRISIS THE WORLD IS IN? HA, HA!

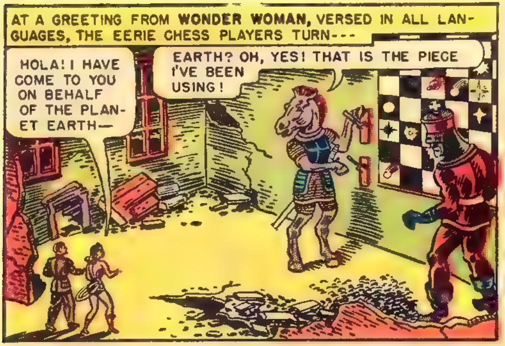

THE AMAZON MAID PLAYS THE SCIENTIST AND THE SOLDIER SIMULTANEOUSLY---
CHECK!
YOU'VE CHECKED MY KING! UNLESS I CAN GET HIM OUT OF DANGER—YOU'VE WON THE GAME!
SAME HERE!

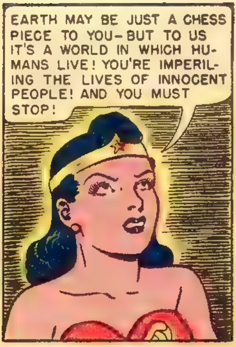

CHECKMATE!
I CAN'T SAVE MY KING!
I'M BEATEN TOO!

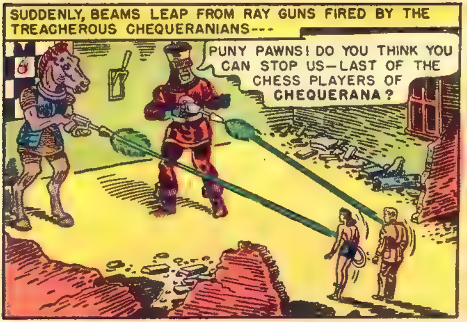

YOU BLOCKED MY EVERY MOVE! WHEW! I FELT AS HELPLESS AS THE POOR TRAPPED KING ON MY CHESS BOARD!
GREAT HERA! YOU'VE JUST GIVEN ME AN IDEA!

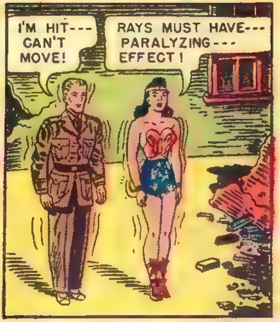

TAKING STEVE WITH HER, WONDER WOMAN BOARDS HER PLANE AND SENDS IT ZOOMING INTO SPACE AT DAZZLING SPEED---
BUT, WONDER WOMAN! HOW COULD MY SAYING I FELT AS HELPLESS AS A CHESS PIECE-GIVE YOU AN IDEA ABOUT THE FORCE BEHIND THE UPHEAVALS TAKING PLACE ON EARTH?
WE'LL SOON SEE, STEVE!
LOOK BACK AT THE EARTH NOW!
GALLOPING GALAXIES!
FROM THE VASTNESS OF OUTER SPACE, THE DARING TRAVELERS STARE AT A STAGGERING SIGHT---
A GIGANTIC CHESSBOARD IN SPACE! WITH STELLAR OBJECTS AS CHESS PIECES!
THAT BEAM OF LIGHT IS MOVING-THE EARTH ALONG THE BOARD TOWARD THE SUN-AND DESTRUCTION!

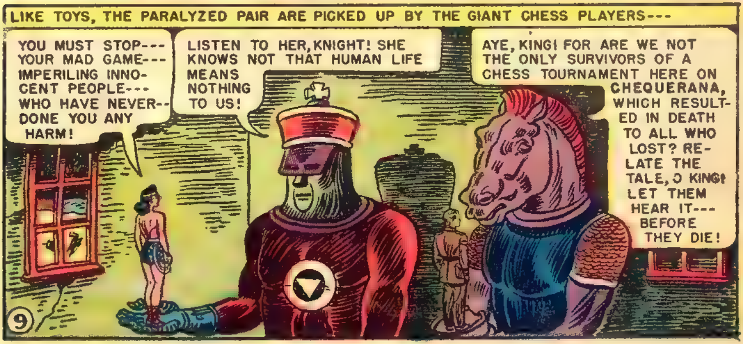

WHAT COULD THAT LIGHT BEAM BE COMPOSED OF—TO MOVE HEAVENLY BODIES ABOUT SO EASILY?
COSMIC FORCE, PROBABLY—EQUIVALENT TO THE ENERGY OF AT LEAST A MILLION MILLION SUNS! WE MUST TRACE THAT LIGHT BEAM TO ITS SOURCE AND HALT THIS MONSTROUS CHESS GAME—BEFORE EARTH IS DESTROYED!
ONWARD INTO THE OUTERMOST REACHES OF SPACE FLASHES THE AMAZON PLANE---
AN EXPLODING STAR!
PROBABLY SACRIFICED LIKE A PAWN BY THE DIABOLICAL CHESS PLAYERS! BY MOVING ONE OF THESE SPACE PIECES AGAINST ANOTHER—COLLISIONS AND EXPLOSIONS ARE CAUSED—SUCH AS YOU HAVE JUST SEEN!
ON---ON---
NEXT TIME, IT MAY BE THE EARTH'S TURN TO BE MOVED, DESTROYING THE PLANET—GREAT THUNDER, WONDER WOMAN, WE'RE HEADING DIRECTLY TOWARD A GIANT METEOR!
IT'S ALL RIGHT, STEVE! I'VE AVOIDED IT! LOOK! TWO BEAMS! THAT COULD ONLY MEAN WE'RE NEARING THE PLACE WHERE BOTH CHESSMEN OF SPACE ARE PLAYING!
AS THE AMAZON SHIP LANDS ON THE STRANGE PLANET FROM WHICH THE COSMIC RAYS EMANATE---
WH-WHO ARE THEY?
CHEQUERIANS!
I RECOGNIZE THEM FROM AMAZON ASTRONOMY BOOKS! THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO BE EXTINCT! THEIR PLANET, CHEQUERANA, LIFELESS!
AND IT'S THEY WHO ARE PLAYING THE COSMIC CHESS GAME WHICH IS DESTROYING THE EARTH! WE'VE GOT TO STOP THEM!

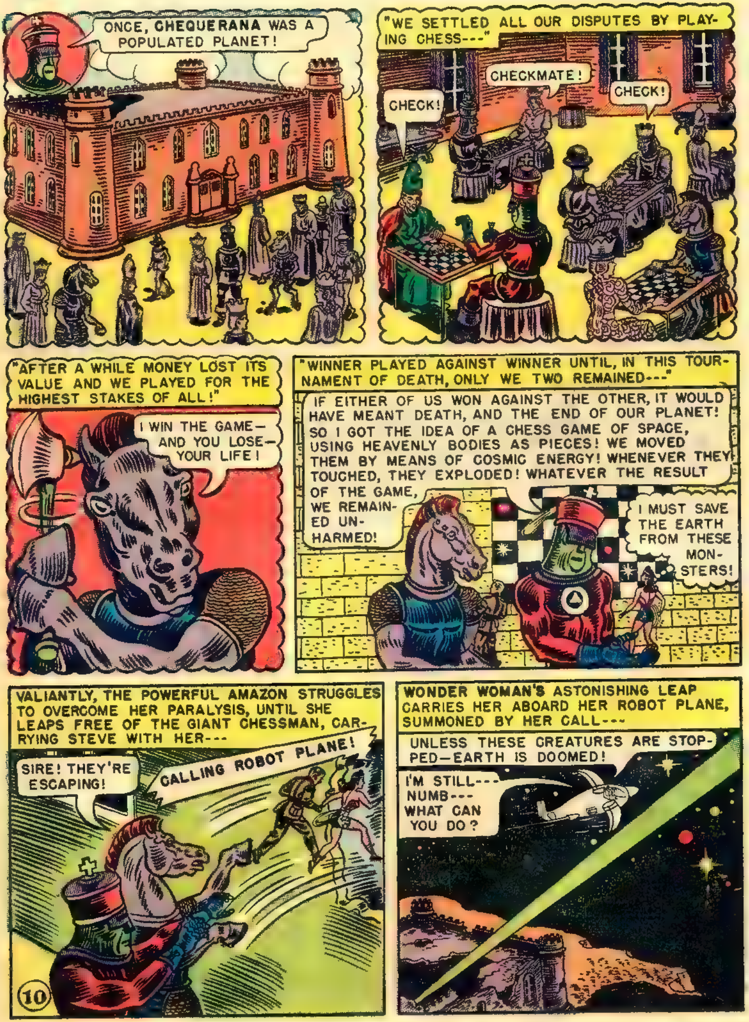

AT A GREETING FROM WONDER WOMAN, VERSED IN ALL LANGUAGES, THE EERIE CHESS PLAYERS TURN---
HOLA! I HAVE COME TO YOU ON BEHALF OF THE PLANET EARTH—
EARTH? OH, YES! THAT IS THE PIECE I'VE BEEN USING!

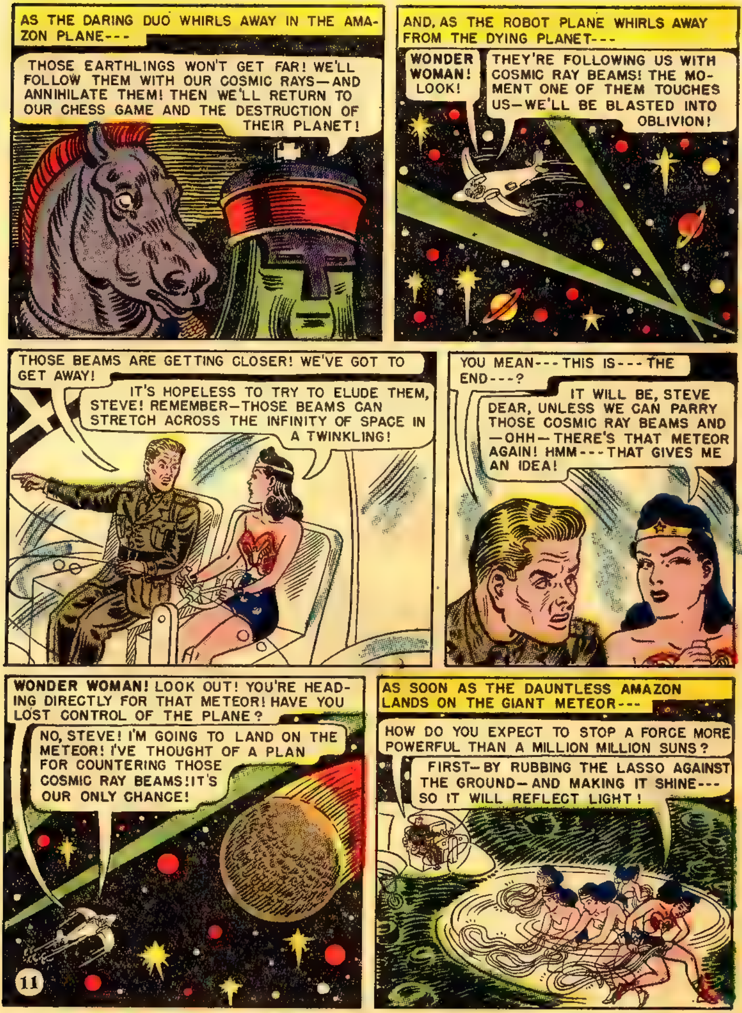

EARTH MAY BE JUST A CHESS PIECE TO YOU—BUT TO US IT'S A WORLD IN WHICH HUMANS LIVE! YOU'RE IMPERILING THE LIVES OF INNOCENT PEOPLE! AND YOU MUST STOP!

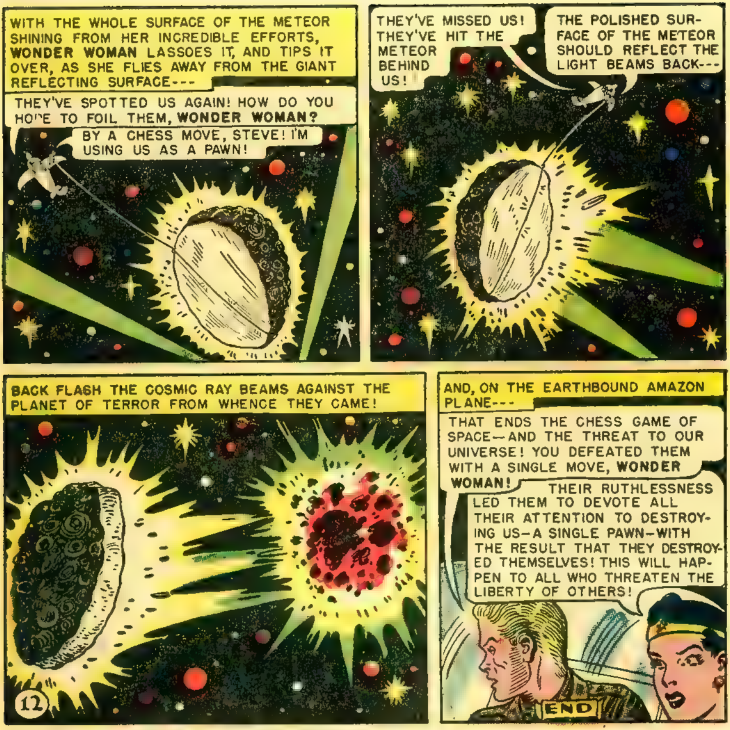

SUDDENLY, BEAMS LEAP FROM RAY GUNS FIRED BY THE TREACHEROUS CHEQUERANIANS---
PUNY PAWNS! DO YOU THINK YOU CAN STOP US—LAST OF THE CHESS PLAYERS OF CHEQUERANA?


I'M HIT--- CAN'T MOVE!
RAYS MUST HAVE--- PARALYZING--- EFFECT!


LIKE TOYS, THE PARALYZED PAIR ARE PICKED UP BY THE GIANT CHESS PLAYERS---
YOU MUST STOP--- YOUR MAD GAME--- IMPERILING INNOCENT PEOPLE--- WHO HAVE NEVER-- DONE YOU ANY HARM!
LISTEN TO HER, KNIGHT! SHE KNOWS NOT THAT HUMAN LIFE MEANS NOTHING TO US!
AYE, KING! FOR ARE WE NOT THE ONLY SURVIVORS OF A CHESS TOURNAMENT HERE ON CHEQUERANA, WHICH RESULTED IN DEATH TO ALL WHO LOST? RELATE THE TALE, O KING! LET THEM HEAR IT--- BEFORE THEY DIE!


ONCE, CHEQUERANA WAS A POPULATED PLANET!
"WE SETTLED ALL OUR DISPUTES BY PLAYING CHESS---"
CHECKMATE!
CHECK!
CHECK!
"AFTER A WHILE MONEY LOST ITS VALUE AND WE PLAYED FOR THE HIGHEST STAKES OF ALL!"
I WIN THE GAME—AND YOU LOSE—YOUR LIFE!
"WINNER PLAYED AGAINST WINNER UNTIL, IN THIS TOURNAMENT OF DEATH, ONLY WE TWO REMAINED---"
IF EITHER OF US WON AGAINST THE OTHER, IT WOULD HAVE MEANT DEATH, AND THE END OF OUR PLANET! SO I GOT THE IDEA OF A CHESS GAME OF SPACE, USING HEAVENLY BODIES AS PIECES! WE MOVED THEM BY MEANS OF COSMIC ENERGY! WHENEVER THEY TOUCHED, THEY EXPLODED! WHATEVER THE RESULT OF THE GAME, WE REMAINED UNHARMED!
I MUST SAVE THE EARTH FROM THESE MONSTERS!
VALIANTLY, THE POWERFUL AMAZON STRUGGLES TO OVERCOME HER PARALYSIS, UNTIL SHE LEAPS FREE OF THE GIANT CHESSMAN, CARRYING STEVE WITH HER---
SIRE! THEY'RE ESCAPING!
CALLING ROBOT PLANE!
WONDER WOMAN'S ASTONISHING LEAP CARRIES HER ABOARD HER ROBOT PLANE, SUMMONED BY HER CALL---
UNLESS THESE CREATURES ARE STOPPED—EARTH IS DOOMED!
I'M STILL---NUMB---WHAT CAN YOU DO?


AS THE DARING DUO WHIRLS AWAY IN THE AMAZON PLANE---
THOSE EARTHLINGS WON'T GET FAR! WE'LL FOLLOW THEM WITH OUR COSMIC RAYS—AND ANNIHILATE THEM! THEN WE'LL RETURN TO OUR CHESS GAME AND THE DESTRUCTION OF THEIR PLANET!
AND, AS THE ROBOT PLANE WHIRLS AWAY FROM THE DYING PLANET---
WONDER WOMAN! LOOK!
THEY'RE FOLLOWING US WITH COSMIC RAY BEAMS! THE MOMENT ONE OF THEM TOUCHES US—WE'LL BE BLASTED INTO OBLIVION!
THOSE BEAMS ARE GETTING CLOSER! WE'VE GOT TO GET AWAY!
IT'S HOPELESS TO TRY TO ELUDE THEM, STEVE! REMEMBER—THOSE BEAMS CAN STRETCH ACROSS THE INFINITY OF SPACE IN A TWINKLING!
YOU MEAN---THIS IS---THE END---?
IT WILL BE, STEVE DEAR, UNLESS WE CAN PARRY THOSE COSMIC RAY BEAMS AND —OHH—THERE'S THAT METEOR AGAIN! HMM---THAT GIVES ME AN IDEA!
WONDER WOMAN! LOOK OUT! YOU'RE HEADING DIRECTLY FOR THAT METEOR! HAVE YOU LOST CONTROL OF THE PLANE?
NO, STEVE! I'M GOING TO LAND ON THE METEOR! I'VE THOUGHT OF A PLAN FOR COUNTERING THOSE COSMIC RAY BEAMS! IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE!
AS SOON AS THE DAUNTLESS AMAZON LANDS ON THE GIANT METEOR---
HOW DO YOU EXPECT TO STOP A FORCE MORE POWERFUL THAN A MILLION MILLION SUNS?
FIRST—BY RUBBING THE LASSO AGAINST THE GROUND—AND MAKING IT SHINE---SO IT WILL REFLECT LIGHT!


WITH THE WHOLE SURFACE OF THE METEOR SHINING FROM HER INCREDIBLE EFFORTS, **WONDER WOMAN** LASSOES IT, AND TIPS IT OVER, AS SHE FLIES AWAY FROM THE GIANT REFLECTING SURFACE---
THEY'VE SPOTTED US AGAIN! HOW DO YOU HOPE TO FOIL THEM, **WONDER WOMAN?**
BY A CHESS MOVE, STEVE! I'M USING US AS A PAWN!
THEY'VE MISSED US! THEY'VE HIT THE METEOR BEHIND US!
THE POLISHED SURFACE OF THE METEOR SHOULD REFLECT THE LIGHT BEAMS BACK---
BACK FLASH THE COSMIC RAY BEAMS AGAINST THE PLANET OF TERROR FROM WHENCE THEY CAME!
12
AND, ON THE EARTHBOUND AMAZON PLANE---
THAT ENDS THE CHESS GAME OF SPACE—AND THE THREAT TO OUR UNIVERSE! YOU DEFEATED THEM WITH A SINGLE MOVE, **WONDER WOMAN!**
THEIR RUTHLESSNESS LED THEM TO DEVOTE ALL THEIR ATTENTION TO DESTROYING US—A SINGLE PAWN—WITH THE RESULT THAT THEY DESTROYED THEMSELVES! THIS WILL HAPPEN TO ALL WHO THREATEN THE LIBERTY OF OTHERS!
END

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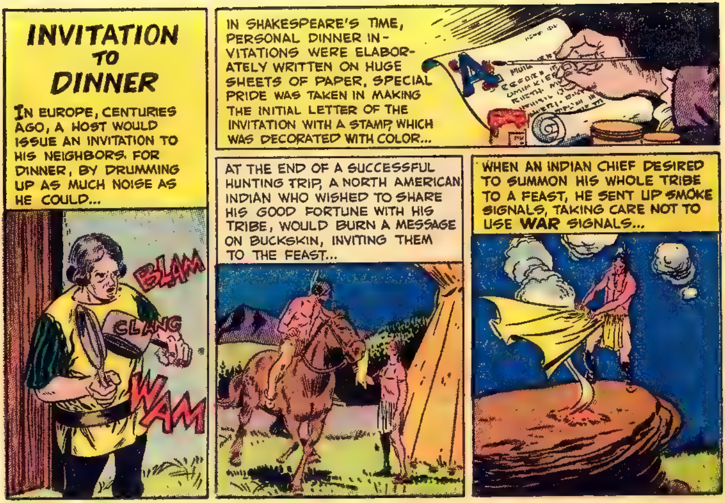
INVITATION TO DINNER
IN EUROPE, CENTURIES AGO, A HOST WOULD ISSUE AN INVITATION TO HIS NEIGHBORS FOR DINNER, BY DRUMMING UP AS MUCH NOISE AS HE COULD...
BLAM
CLANG
WAM
IN SHAKESPEARE'S TIME, PERSONAL DINNER INVITATIONS WERE ELABORATELY WRITTEN ON HUGE SHEETS OF PAPER. SPECIAL PRIDE WAS TAKEN IN MAKING THE INITIAL LETTER OF THE INVITATION WITH A STAMP, WHICH WAS DECORATED WITH COLOR...
AT THE END OF A SUCCESSFUL HUNTING TRIP, A NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN WHO WISHED TO SHARE HIS GOOD FORTUNE WITH HIS TRIBE, WOULD BURN A MESSAGE ON BUCKSKIN, INVITING THEM TO THE FEAST...
WHEN AN INDIAN CHIEF DESIRED TO SUMMON HIS WHOLE TRIBE TO A FEAST, HE SENT UP SMOKE SIGNALS, TAKING CARE NOT TO USE WAR SIGNALS...

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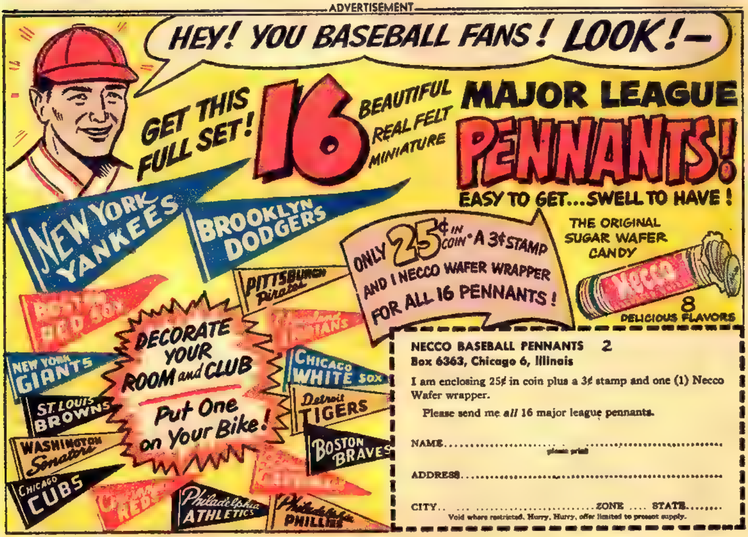
HEY! YOU BASEBALL FANS! LOOK!—
GET THIS FULL SET! 16 BEAUTIFUL REAL FELT MINIATURE MAJOR LEAGUE PENNANTS!
EASY TO GET...SWELL TO HAVE!
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BROOKLYN DODGERS
PITTSBURGH Pirates
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NEW YORK GIANTS
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THE ORIGINAL SUGAR WAFER CANDY
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8 DELICIOUS FLAVORS

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Please send me *all* 16 major league pennants.

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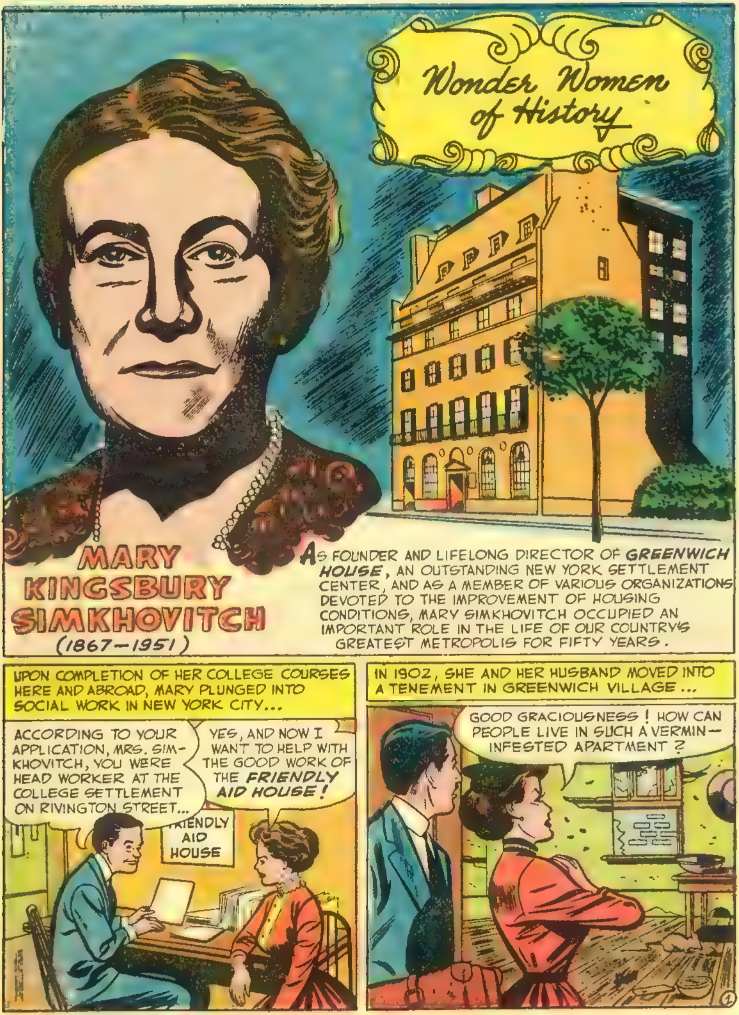
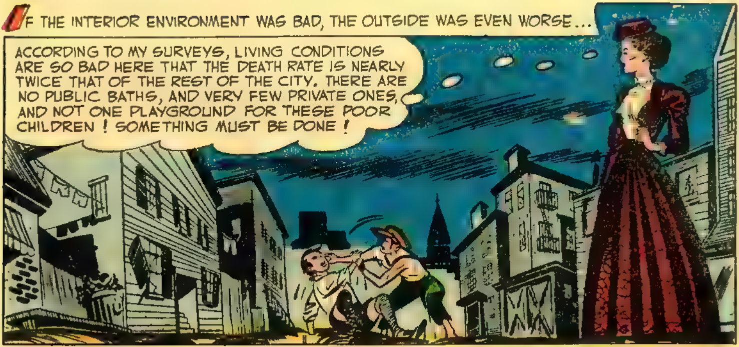
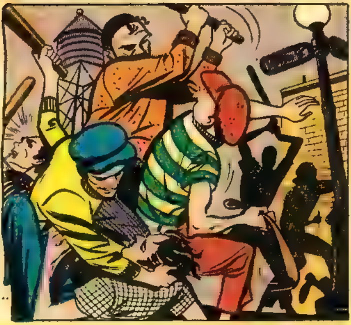
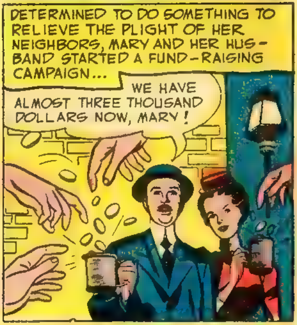
Void where restricted. Hurry. Hurry, offer limited to present supply.

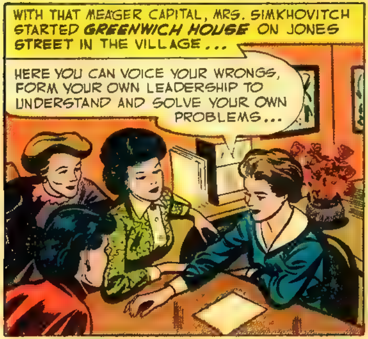

Wonder Women of History
MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH (1867–1951)
AS FOUNDER AND LIFELONG DIRECTOR OF **GREENWICH HOUSE**, AN OUTSTANDING NEW YORK SETTLEMENT CENTER, AND AS A MEMBER OF VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS DEVOTED TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF HOUSING CONDITIONS, MARY SIMKHOVITCH OCCUPIED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE LIFE OF OUR COUNTRY'S GREATEST METROPOLIS FOR FIFTY YEARS.
UPON COMPLETION OF HER COLLEGE COURSES HERE AND ABROAD, MARY PLUNGED INTO SOCIAL WORK IN NEW YORK CITY...
ACCORDING TO YOUR APPLICATION, MRS. SIMKHOVITCH, YOU WERE HEAD WORKER AT THE COLLEGE SETTLEMENT ON RIVINGTON STREET...
YES, AND NOW I WANT TO HELP WITH THE GOOD WORK OF THE **FRIENDLY AID HOUSE**!
FRIENDLY AID HOUSE
IN 1902, SHE AND HER HUSBAND MOVED INTO A TENEMENT IN GREENWICH VILLAGE...
GOOD GRACIOUSNESS! HOW CAN PEOPLE LIVE IN SUCH A VERMIN-INFESTED APARTMENT?
1

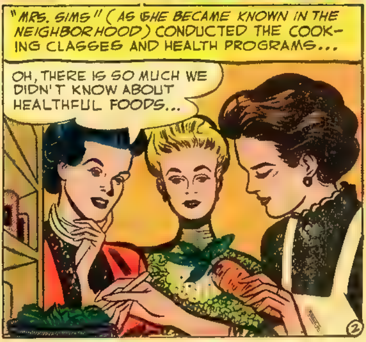

IF THE INTERIOR ENVIRONMENT WAS BAD, THE OUTSIDE WAS EVEN WORSE...
ACCORDING TO MY SURVEYS, LIVING CONDITIONS ARE SO BAD HERE THAT THE DEATH RATE IS NEARLY TWICE THAT OF THE REST OF THE CITY. THERE ARE NO PUBLIC BATHS, AND VERY FEW PRIVATE ONES, AND NOT ONE PLAYGROUND FOR THESE POOR CHILDREN ! SOMETHING MUST BE DONE !

EVEN WORSE, THE TENEMENT NEIGHBORHOOD WAS AT THE MERCY OF TWO RIVAL ADOLESCENT GANGS, THE ***HUDSON OYSTERS*** AND THE ***GOPHERS***...

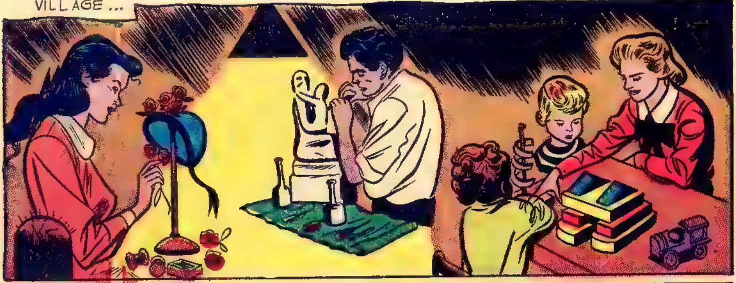



DETERMINED TO DO SOMETHING TO RELIEVE THE PLIGHT OF HER NEIGHBORS, MARY AND HER HUSBAND STARTED A FUND-RAISING CAMPAIGN...
WE HAVE ALMOST THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS NOW, MARY !

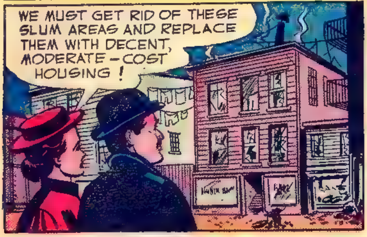

WITH THAT MEAGER CAPITAL, MRS. SIMKHOVITCH STARTED GREENWICH HOUSE ON JONES STREET IN THE VILLAGE...
HERE YOU CAN VOICE YOUR WRONGS, FORM YOUR OWN LEADERSHIP TO UNDERSTAND AND SOLVE YOUR OWN PROBLEMS...


"MRS. SIMS" (AS SHE BECAME KNOWN IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD) CONDUCTED THE COOKING CLASSES AND HEALTH PROGRAMS...
OH, THERE IS SO MUCH WE DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT HEALTHFUL FOODS...

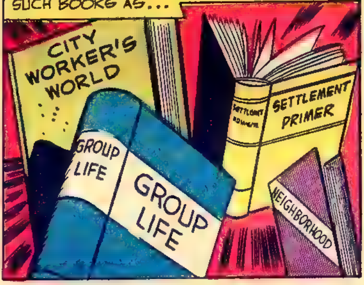
SOON A CLINIC FOR ILL BABIES WAS ESTABLISHED AND A TRAINED NURSE PLACED ON THE STAFF. THEN FOLLOWED CLASSES IN CARPENTRY, POTTERY, SEWING, MILLINERY, AND ENGLISH. ***GREENWICH HOUSE*** HAD BECOME THE MOST IMPORTANT PLACE IN THE VILLAGE...



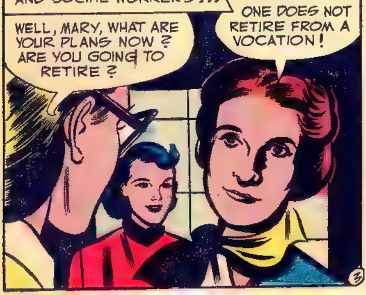
OFTEN REFERRED TO AS THE MOTHER OF PUBLIC HOUSING IN THIS COUNTRY, MARY WAS A MEMBER OF THE NEW YORK CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR 14 YEARS...


WE MUST GET RID OF THESE SLUM AREAS AND REPLACE THEM WITH DECENT, MODERATE-COST HOUSING!

TO HELP PUBLICIZE HER IDEAS SHE WROTE SUCH BOOKS AS...


CITY WORKER'S WORLD
GROUP LIFE
GROUP LIFE
SETTLEMENT PRIMER
NEIGHBORHOOD

IN 1946, WHEN SHE RETIRED AS DIRECTOR OF ***GREENWICH HOUSE***, SHE WAS FETED BY MORE THAN 500 FRIENDS, ADMIRERERS, AND SOCIAL WORKERS...


WELL, MARY, WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS NOW? ARE YOU GOING TO RETIRE?
ONE DOES NOT RETIRE FROM A VOCATION!

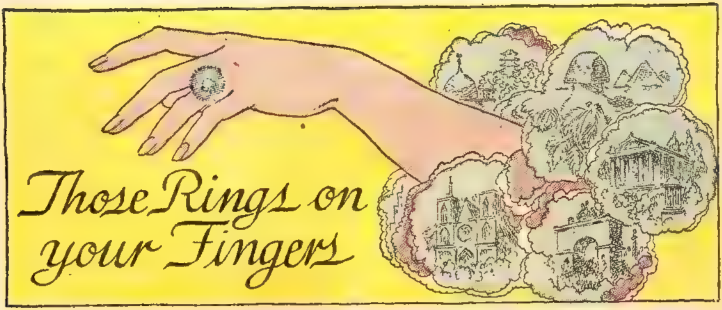
DURING HER *53* YEARS AS A LEADER IN SOCIAL WORK, MARY SIMKHOVITCH CONCERNED HERSELF WITH SUCH A GREAT VARIETY OF SOCIAL PROBLEMS THAT IT IS ASTONISHING SHE CARRIED THEM ALL OUT SO SUCCESSFULLY.

ALTHOUGH SHE ACHIEVED WORLD-WIDE RECOGNITION FOR HER WORK, SHE DID NOT WISH TO BE THOUGHT OF AS A "*LADY BOUNTIFUL*." IT IS AN HONOR TO ADD MARY SIMKHOVITCH TO THE ***WONDER WOMEN OF HISTORY*** HALL OF FAME.

Diana Prince

(WONDER WOMAN)

Those Rings on your Fingers



NO one can say exactly how far back in history the ring goes. But as far back as it can be traced, you'll find the weirdest notions and superstitions accompanying it on its glamorous march through history.

One of the earliest legends regarding the ring is the fable told by Pliny in his *Natural History*, in which he relates the story of Prometheus. This gentleman, according to the story, had the audacity to steal the sacred fire of heaven for mortal use.

For his crime, Jupiter chained him to a rock high in the mountains for a thousand years. After straining at the chains for a couple of centuries, the patient Prometheus finally managed to break away. From his perch on high Mount Olympus, Jupiter witnessed the escape, took pity on the freed captive, and promised him permanent freedom on one condition.

The proviso was that Prometheus must wear a portion of the chain about his finger, signifying that he still was, if only in spirit, bound to the mountain rock to which he had been chained—and he'd better not forget it—in the event he misbehaved in the future.

This is probably how the idea originated of placing something around your finger to remind you of something. Pliny also contends this was how the idea of the ring itself originated. But modern experts have other ideas, both about the ring and the legend.

Some hold that ancient tribesmen tied a band of sweetgrass, or a thin thong of leather on their sweethearts' fingers, to remind them that they were engaged. It doesn't matter which theory is correct—but the Pliny theory evolved into a superstition, and then graduated into a custom.

When a Roman slave was given his liberty he received, along with a cap and a white vest, a ring of iron. The idea was that the slave had been fastened, in a manner of speaking, by a Caucasian chain of bondage—like the one Prometheus wore. And upon being freed he still had to wear the ring as a remembrance.

The freed slave wasn't permitted to wear a ring of gold, because this was, at the time, a badge of citizenship. Nowadays we know that wedding rings are intended to remind the woman that she is married. We may also wear rings to remember birthdays, lodge memberships and graduations.

Going forward a bit in history, King Solomon was supposed to own a ring, the "Ring of Solomon," possessed of truly remarkable powers Every day at noon, according to legend, this ring transported Solomon to the heavens, where he learned the secrets of the universe. This accounted for his great wisdom, it was believed.

The ring of Helen of Troy was supposed to contain a star gem taken from the head of a mysterious fish called *pan*. This stone, which emitted rays of flame, was created as a love charm, and is supposed to have given Helen her great influence with the leading men of her time.

In early Italian history, it was the Omen ring that enjoyed great popularity. Once, a ring was cast into the Adriatic by the Doge in token of his marriage to the sea, an ancient custom. This same ring was later found in a fish that was served at the table of the Doge almost a year after the "marriage ceremony." Legend maintains this was an omen of the eventual downfall of the Venetian Republic.

Back in the sixth century, in India, the great Hindu poet, Kalidasa, tells the story of a ring with magical powers. A prophecy is made to the heroine that the man she marries will forget all about her until his memory is revived by a ring. In due time, she marries the great king, Dushyanta, who eventually leaves her, and goes back to his own court.

When she follows her king, he doesn't even recognize her, let alone recall who she is. Then, remembering the prediction about the ring, she goes hunting for it—but discovers it is lost. Later in the poem, guards drag forward a fisherman who is charged with wearing the royal signet ring, and inventing a fantastic story that he found it inside a fish.

The king, however, admits the truth of the story, lets the fisherman go, places the ring on his finger—and the moment he does so, recognizes his queen, and the couple, of course, live happily ever after.

In a more modern Welsh legend, the following explicit directions are given by a girl to her lover in regard to a ring:

"Take this ring and put it on thy finger with the stone within thy hand; and close thy hand upon the stone, and as long as thou concealest it, it will conceal thee."

This "stone of invisibility" was considered as one of the "rarities" of the ancient British regalia, treasured in old Welsh legends. It was believed that whoever concealed the stone of the ring would be concealed by it.

In another period, Abbot Trithemius thought of creating a ring which would give the wearer the power of becoming invisible at will. The Abbot, who lived in Prussia, 1462-1516, claimed he had made such a ring out of the material called electrum, a natural alloy of gold and silver, having the color of amber.

According to the Abbot, in order to possess the power of invisibility, the ring must be cast at the hour at which the person who is designed to use it, is born. Then, when the ring was placed upon the thumb of the left hand, the wearer became invisible.

This wasn't all the power the ring had. Wearing it also protected one from poison and had the magical gift of changing color when enemies threatened.

In the British Museum today, is a bronze ring set with an amethyst, on which has been engraved a human eye. This ring is one of the more fascinating symbols of a bygone age—an age filled with mysticism and superstition. A bronze ring was supposed to be protection against the "Evil Eye." Accordingly, this particular ring in the British Museum is regarded as an anti-"Evil Eye" ring.

This ring is of Graeco-Roman origin, dating back to nearly 500 B.C. Weighing over two ounces, the ring was found in Tarsus. But even down to the reign of Queen Elizabeth, superstition regarding rings prevailed.

Queen Elizabeth's own coronation ring, which she always wore after ascending the throne, was an example. After many years, it seems the ring became too tight and had to be filed off. And this was regarded by many about her as an augury of evil to come.

Benvenuto Cellini, in his *Memoirs*, mentions the discovery in Rome of certain vases which appeared to be antique urns filled with ashes. Amongst these were iron rings inlaid with gold. Learned scholars, investigating, learned they were worn as charms to fend off evil.

There is an old paper, the *Leyden Papyrus*, published in the third century in Greek and Egyptian, which tells how to prepare amulets and talismans. One of the formulas reads in part:

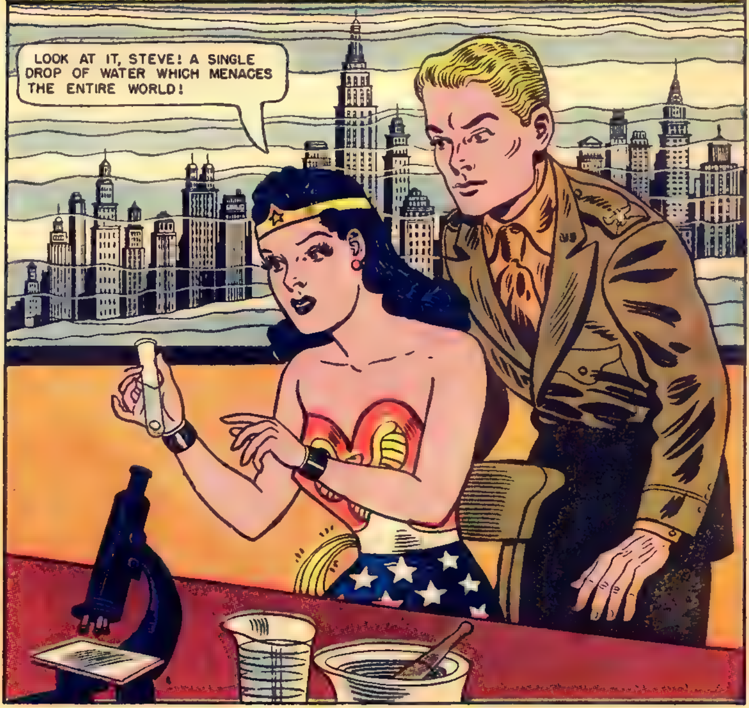
" . . . thou shalt wear the ring in all purity. Having it with thee, all thy wishes will be fulfilled; the hatred of kings toward thee will be appeased; when thou wearest it, all that thou sayest will be believed . . ."

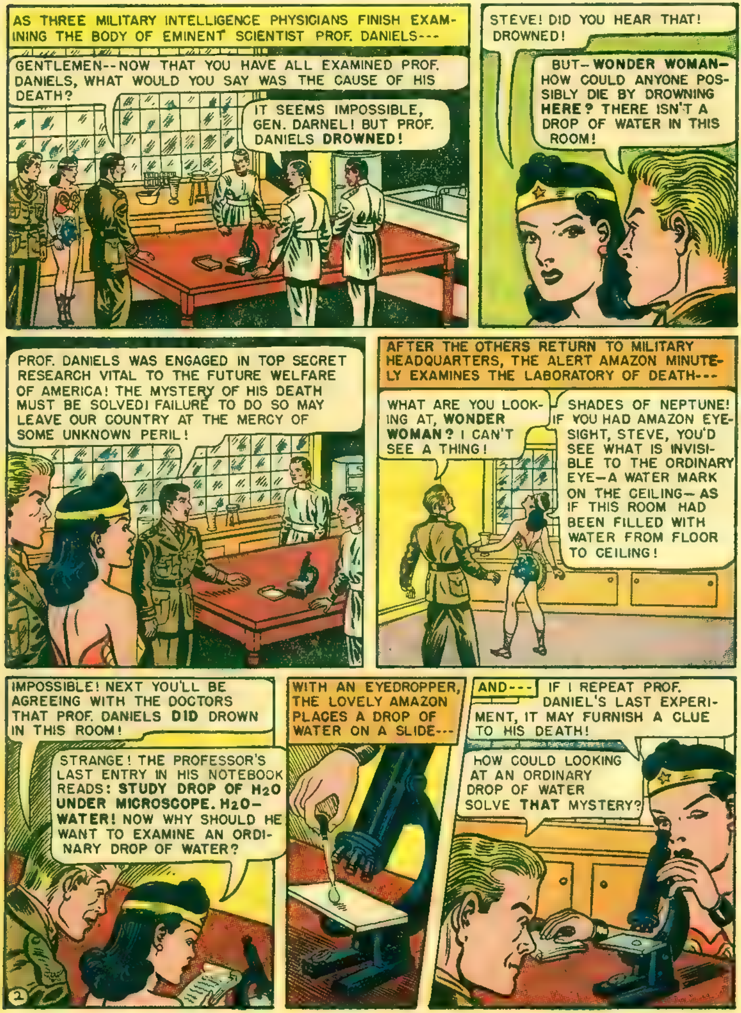
Wonder Woman

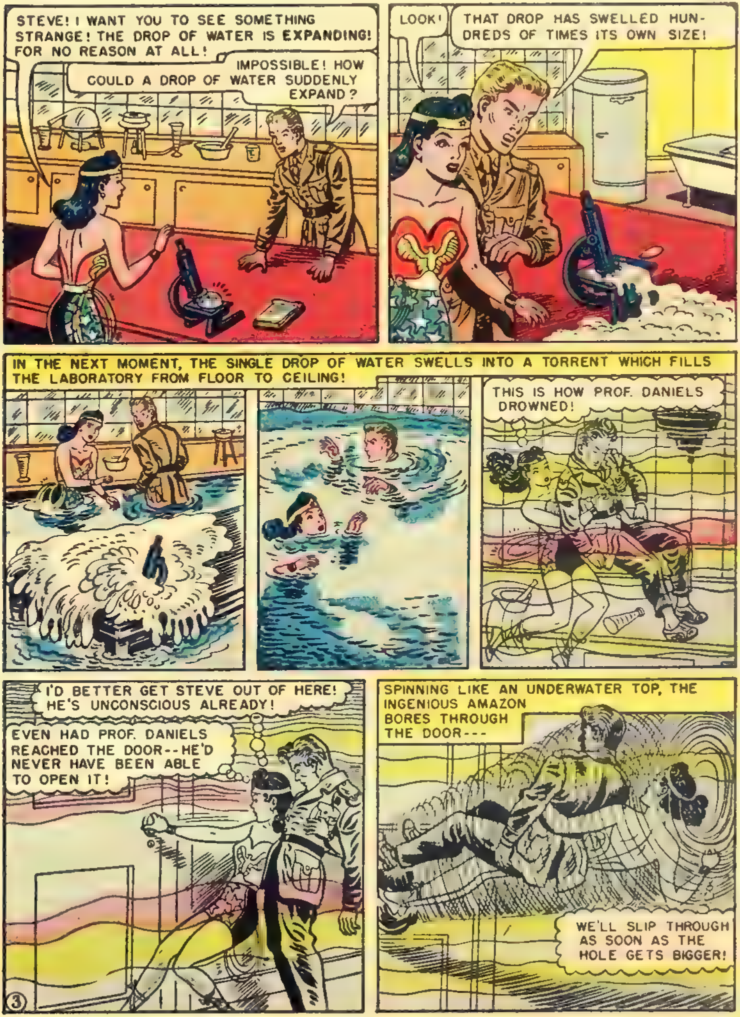
By CHARLES MOULTON

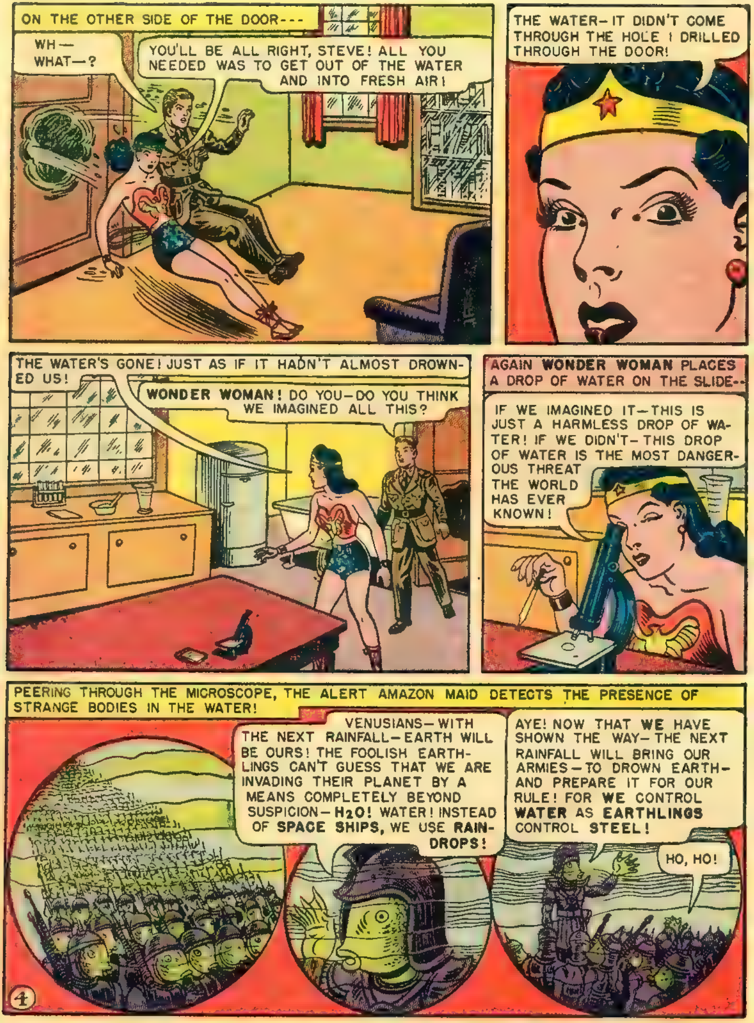
EVERY TIME MAN HAS BEEN THREATENED, HE HAS CREATED A DEFENSE! THE SHIELD HAS PROTECTED HIM AGAINST THE ARROW, ARMOR PLATE AGAINST BULLETS, RADAR AGAINST PLANES! BUT NOW EARTH IS FACED WITH A MENACE AS DEVASTATING AS IT IS INNOCENT-LOOKING! AND **WONDER WOMAN**—BEAUTIFUL AS APHRODITE, WISE AS ATHENA, SWIFTER THAN MERCURY, AND STRONGER THAN HERCULES—HAS TO ACCOMPLISH THE IMPOSSIBLE, AND HALT THE IRRESISTIBLE IN----

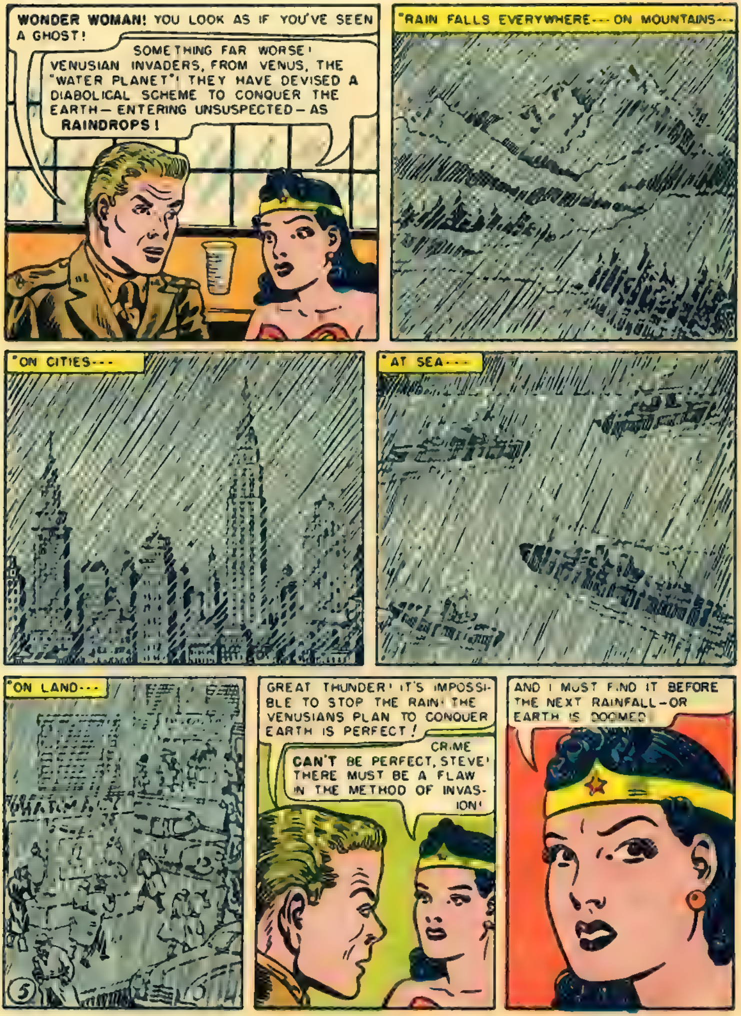
"INVASION OF THE RAINDROPS!"

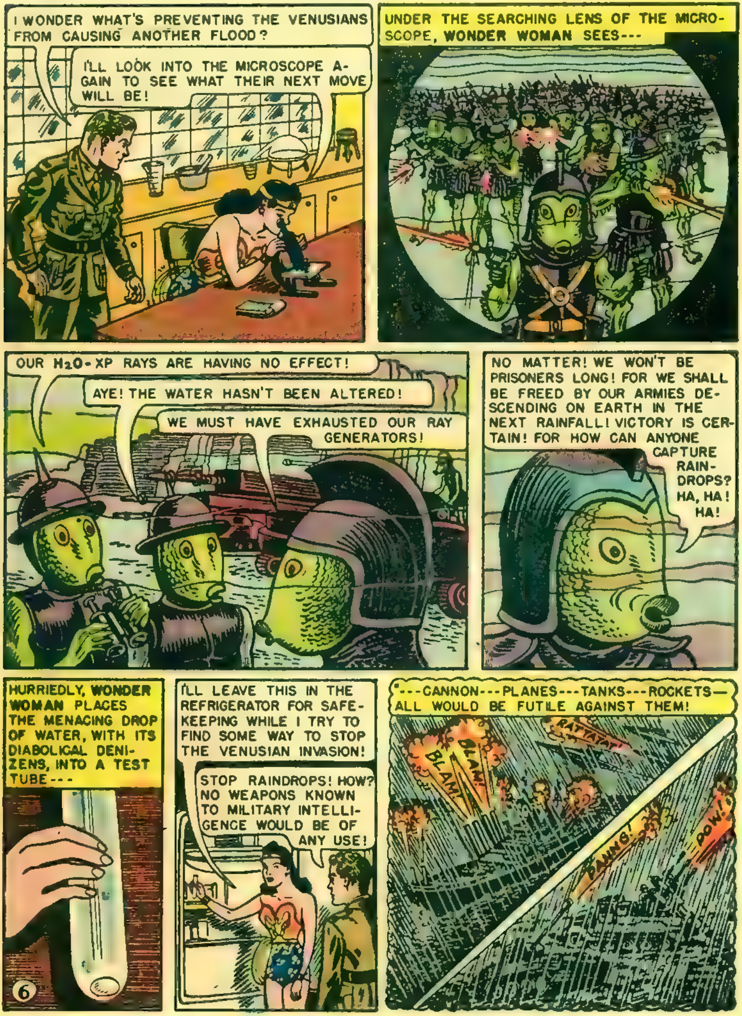

LOOK AT IT, STEVE! A SINGLE DROP OF WATER WHICH MENACES THE ENTIRE WORLD!

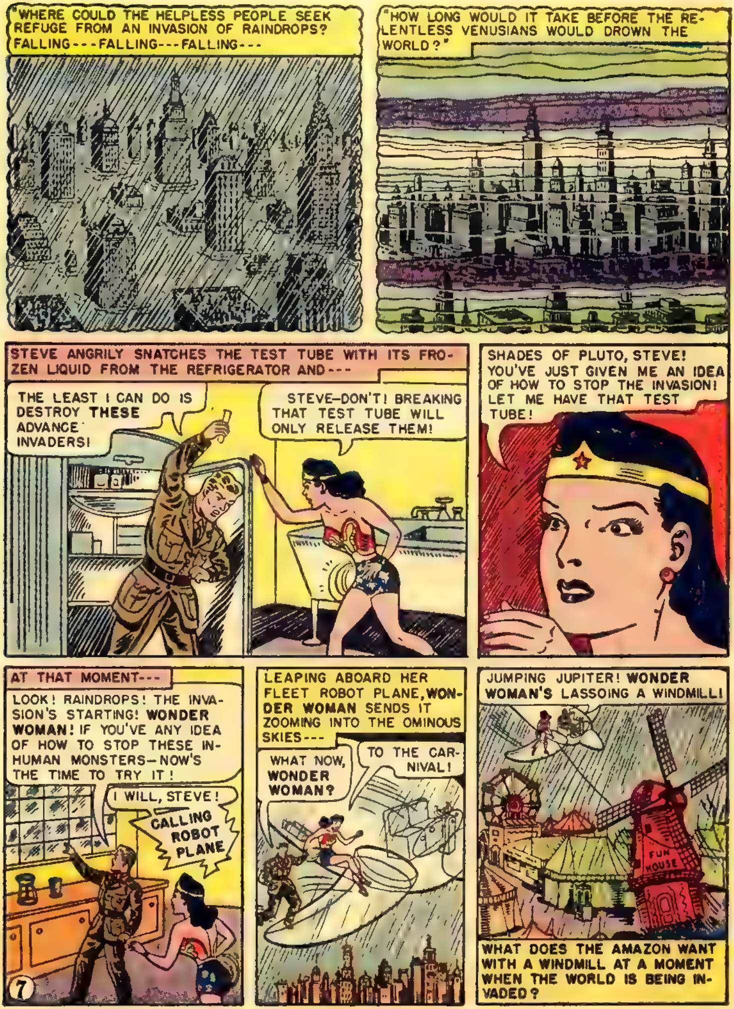

AS THREE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE PHYSICIANS FINISH EXAMINING THE BODY OF EMINENT SCIENTIST PROF. DANIELS---
GENTLEMEN--NOW THAT YOU HAVE ALL EXAMINED PROF. DANIELS, WHAT WOULD YOU SAY WAS THE CAUSE OF HIS DEATH?
IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE, GEN. DARNEL! BUT PROF. DANIELS **DROWNED!**
STEVE! DID YOU HEAR THAT! DROWNED!
BUT--**WONDER WOMAN**--HOW COULD ANYONE POSSIBLY DIE BY DROWNING **HERE?** THERE ISN'T A DROP OF WATER IN THIS ROOM!
PROF. DANIELS WAS ENGAGED IN TOP SECRET RESEARCH VITAL TO THE FUTURE WELFARE OF AMERICA! THE MYSTERY OF HIS DEATH MUST BE SOLVED! FAILURE TO DO SO MAY LEAVE OUR COUNTRY AT THE MERCY OF SOME UNKNOWN PERIL!
AFTER THE OTHERS RETURN TO MILITARY HEADQUARTERS, THE ALERT AMAZON MINUTELY EXAMINES THE LABORATORY OF DEATH---
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT, **WONDER WOMAN?** I CAN'T SEE A THING!
SHADES OF NEPTUNE! IF YOU HAD AMAZON EYESIGHT, STEVE, YOU'D SEE WHAT IS INVISIBLE TO THE ORDINARY EYE--A WATER MARK ON THE CEILING--AS IF THIS ROOM HAD BEEN FILLED WITH WATER FROM FLOOR TO CEILING!
IMPOSSIBLE! NEXT YOU'LL BE AGREEING WITH THE DOCTORS THAT PROF. DANIELS **DID** DROWN IN THIS ROOM!
STRANGE! THE PROFESSOR'S LAST ENTRY IN HIS NOTEBOOK READS: **STUDY DROP OF H_2O UNDER MICROSCOPE. H_2O--WATER!** NOW WHY SHOULD HE WANT TO EXAMINE AN ORDINARY DROP OF WATER?
WITH AN EYEDROPPER, THE LOVELY AMAZON PLACES A DROP OF WATER ON A SLIDE---
AND---
IF I REPEAT PROF. DANIEL'S LAST EXPERIMENT, IT MAY FURNISH A CLUE TO HIS DEATH!
HOW COULD LOOKING AT AN ORDINARY DROP OF WATER SOLVE **THAT** MYSTERY?

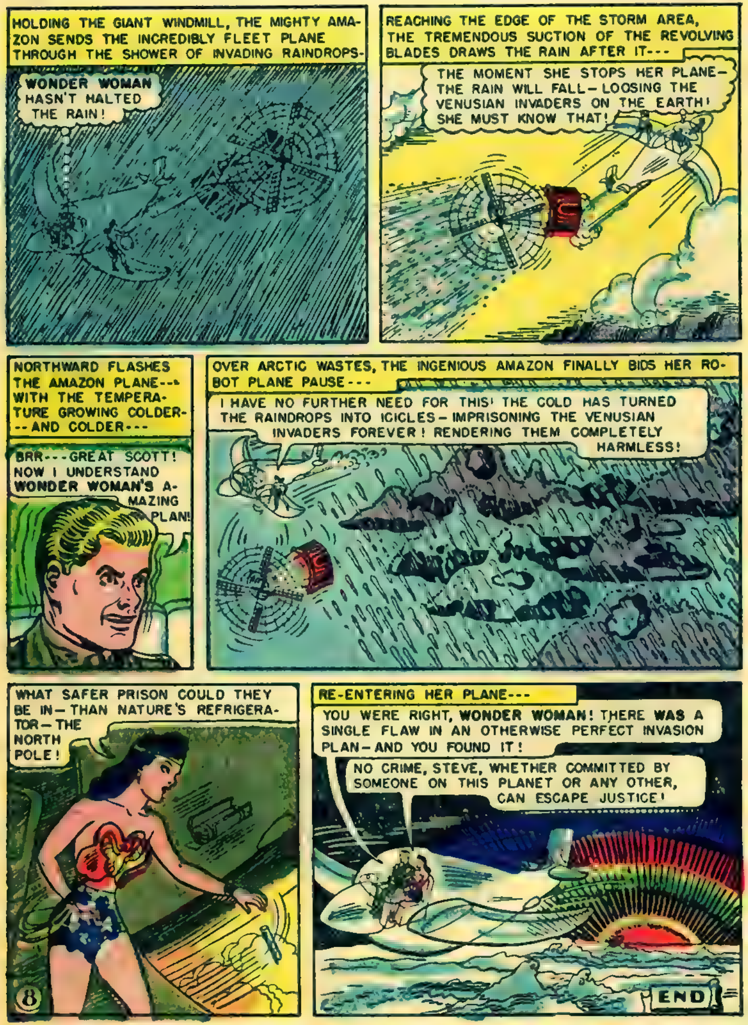

STEVE! I WANT YOU TO SEE SOMETHING STRANGE! THE DROP OF WATER IS EXPANDING! FOR NO REASON AT ALL!
IMPOSSIBLE! HOW COULD A DROP OF WATER SUDDENLY EXPAND?
LOOK!
THAT DROP HAS SWELLED HUNDREDS OF TIMES ITS OWN SIZE!
IN THE NEXT MOMENT, THE SINGLE DROP OF WATER SWELLS INTO A TORRENT WHICH FILLS THE LABORATORY FROM FLOOR TO CEILING!
THIS IS HOW PROF. DANIELS DROWNED!
I'D BETTER GET STEVE OUT OF HERE! HE'S UNCONSCIOUS ALREADY!
EVEN HAD PROF. DANIELS REACHED THE DOOR--HE'D NEVER HAVE BEEN ABLE TO OPEN IT!
SPINNING LIKE AN UNDERWATER TOP, THE INGENIOUS AMAZON BORES THROUGH THE DOOR---
WE'LL SLIP THROUGH AS SOON AS THE HOLE GETS BIGGER!


ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE DOOR---
WH— WHAT—?
YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT, STEVE! ALL YOU NEEDED WAS TO GET OUT OF THE WATER AND INTO FRESH AIR!
THE WATER—IT DIDN'T COME THROUGH THE HOLE I DRILLED THROUGH THE DOOR!
THE WATER'S GONE! JUST AS IF IT HADN'T ALMOST DROWNED US!
WONDER WOMAN! DO YOU—DO YOU THINK WE IMAGINED ALL THIS?
AGAIN WONDER WOMAN PLACES A DROP OF WATER ON THE SLIDE--
IF WE IMAGINED IT—THIS IS JUST A HARMLESS DROP OF WATER! IF WE DIDN'T—THIS DROP OF WATER IS THE MOST DANGEROUS THREAT THE WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN!
PEERING THROUGH THE MICROSCOPE, THE ALERT AMAZON MAID DETECTS THE PRESENCE OF STRANGE BODIES IN THE WATER!
VENUSIANS—WITH THE NEXT RAINFALL—EARTH WILL BE OURS! THE FOOLISH EARTHLINGS CAN'T GUESS THAT WE ARE INVADING THEIR PLANET BY A MEANS COMPLETELY BEYOND SUSPICION—H2O! WATER! INSTEAD OF SPACE SHIPS, WE USE RAINDROPS!
AYE! NOW THAT WE HAVE SHOWN THE WAY—THE NEXT RAINFALL WILL BRING OUR ARMIES—TO DROWN EARTH—AND PREPARE IT FOR OUR RULE! FOR WE CONTROL WATER AS EARTHLINGS CONTROL STEEL!
HO, HO!


WONDER WOMAN! YOU LOOK AS IF YOU'VE SEEN A GHOST!
SOMETHING FAR WORSE! VENUSIAN INVADERS, FROM VENUS, THE "WATER PLANET"! THEY HAVE DEVISED A DIABOLICAL SCHEME TO CONQUER THE EARTH—ENTERING UNSUSPECTED—AS RAINDROPS!
"RAIN FALLS EVERYWHERE—ON MOUNTAINS—
"ON CITIES—
"AT SEA—
"ON LAND—
GREAT THUNDER! IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO STOP THE RAIN! THE VENUSIANS PLAN TO CONQUER EARTH IS PERFECT!
CRIME CAN'T BE PERFECT, STEVE! THERE MUST BE A FLAW IN THE METHOD OF INVASION!
AND I MUST FIND IT BEFORE THE NEXT RAINFALL—OR EARTH IS DOOMED!

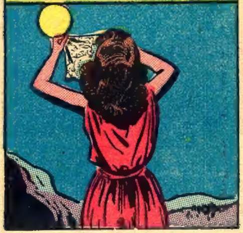

I WONDER WHAT'S PREVENTING THE VENUSIANS FROM CAUSING ANOTHER FLOOD?
I'LL LOOK INTO THE MICROSCOPE AGAIN TO SEE WHAT THEIR NEXT MOVE WILL BE!
UNDER THE SEARCHING LENS OF THE MICROSCOPE, WONDER WOMAN SEES---
OUR H₂O-XP RAYS ARE HAVING NO EFFECT!
AYE! THE WATER HASN'T BEEN ALTERED!
WE MUST HAVE EXHAUSTED OUR RAY GENERATORS!
NO MATTER! WE WON'T BE PRISONERS LONG! FOR WE SHALL BE FREED BY OUR ARMIES DESCENDING ON EARTH IN THE NEXT RAINFALL! VICTORY IS CERTAIN! FOR HOW CAN ANYONE CAPTURE RAINDROPS? HA, HA! HA!
HURRIEDLY, WONDER WOMAN PLACES THE MENACING DROP OF WATER, WITH ITS DIABOLICAL DENIZENS, INTO A TEST TUBE---
I'LL LEAVE THIS IN THE REFRIGERATOR FOR SAFEKEEPING WHILE I TRY TO FIND SOME WAY TO STOP THE VENUSIAN INVASION!
STOP RAINDROPS! HOW? NO WEAPONS KNOWN TO MILITARY INTELLIGENCE WOULD BE OF ANY USE!
"---CANNON---PLANES---TANKS---ROCKETS—ALL WOULD BE FUTILE AGAINST THEM!
BLAM!
BLAM!
RATTATAT!
BANG!
POW!


"WHERE COULD THE HELPLESS PEOPLE SEEK REFUGE FROM AN INVASION OF RAINDROPS? FALLING---FALLING---FALLING---
"HOW LONG WOULD IT TAKE BEFORE THE RELENTLESS VENUSIANS WOULD DROWN THE WORLD?"
STEVE ANGRILY SNATCHES THE TEST TUBE WITH ITS FROZEN LIQUID FROM THE REFRIGERATOR AND---
THE LEAST I CAN DO IS DESTROY THESE ADVANCE INVADERS!
STEVE–DON'T! BREAKING THAT TEST TUBE WILL ONLY RELEASE THEM!
SHADES OF PLUTO, STEVE! YOU'VE JUST GIVEN ME AN IDEA OF HOW TO STOP THE INVASION! LET ME HAVE THAT TEST TUBE!
AT THAT MOMENT---
LOOK! RAINDROPS! THE INVASION'S STARTING! WONDER WOMAN! IF YOU'VE ANY IDEA OF HOW TO STOP THESE INHUMAN MONSTERS–NOW'S THE TIME TO TRY IT!
I WILL, STEVE!
CALLING ROBOT PLANE
LEAPING ABOARD HER FLEET ROBOT PLANE, WONDER WOMAN SENDS IT ZOOMING INTO THE OMINOUS SKIES---
WHAT NOW, WONDER WOMAN?
TO THE CARNIVAL!
JUMPING JUPITER! WONDER WOMAN'S LASSOING A WINDMILL!
FUN HOUSE
WHAT DOES THE AMAZON WANT WITH A WINDMILL AT A MOMENT WHEN THE WORLD IS BEING INVADED?

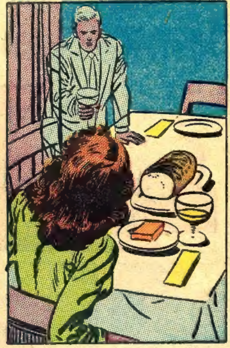

HOLDING THE GIANT WINDMILL, THE MIGHTY AMAZON SENDS THE INCREDIBLY FLEET PLANE THROUGH THE SHOWER OF INVADING RAINDROPS-
WONDER WOMAN HASN'T HALTED THE RAIN!
REACHING THE EDGE OF THE STORM AREA, THE TREMENDOUS SUCTION OF THE REVOLVING BLADES DRAWS THE RAIN AFTER IT---
THE MOMENT SHE STOPS HER PLANE—THE RAIN WILL FALL—LOOSING THE VENUSIAN INVADERS ON THE EARTH! SHE MUST KNOW THAT!
NORTHWARD FLASHES THE AMAZON PLANE--- WITH THE TEMPERATURE GROWING COLDER---AND COLDER---
BRR---GREAT SCOTT! NOW I UNDERSTAND WONDER WOMAN'S AMAZING PLAN!
OVER ARCTIC WASTES, THE INGENIOUS AMAZON FINALLY BIDS HER ROBOT PLANE PAUSE---
I HAVE NO FURTHER NEED FOR THIS! THE COLD HAS TURNED THE RAINDROPS INTO ICICLES—IMPRISONING THE VENUSIAN INVADERS FOREVER! RENDERING THEM COMPLETELY HARMLESS!
WHAT SAFER PRISON COULD THEY BE IN—THAN NATURE'S REFRIGERATOR—THE NORTH POLE!
8
RE-ENTERING HER PLANE---
YOU WERE RIGHT, WONDER WOMAN! THERE WAS A SINGLE FLAW IN AN OTHERWISE PERFECT INVASION PLAN—AND YOU FOUND IT!
NO CRIME, STEVE, WHETHER COMMITTED BY SOMEONE ON THIS PLANET OR ANY OTHER, CAN ESCAPE JUSTICE!
END

MARRIAGE CHARMS

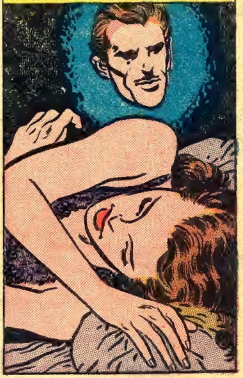
NOT TOO LONG AGO, YOUNG LADIES WHO WERE EAGER TO FIND OUT HOW LONG THEY WOULD HAVE TO WAIT BEFORE BEING MARRIED, WOULD LOOK AT THE FIRST MOON OF THE NEW YEAR THROUGH A SILK HANDKERCHIEF. THE NUMBER OF MOONS THEY COULD SEE WOULD REPRESENT THE NUMBER OF MONTHS THEY WOULD REMAIN UNMARRIED...



MORE CURIOUS GIRLS COULD DISCOVER ***WHO*** THEY WOULD MARRY IF ON MIDSUMMER EVE THEY PREPARED A MEAL OF BREAD, CHEESE AND ALE AND THEN LEFT THE FRONT DOOR OPEN. AT MIDNIGHT, HER PROSPECTIVE HUSBAND WOULD ENTER AND MAKE A TOAST TO HER...



A SIMPLER METHOD FOR DISCOVERING A HUSBAND-TO-BE WAS TO PLACE A SLICE OF BRIDAL CAKE UNDER THE HEAD OF AN UNMARRIED WOMAN AT NIGHT, CAUSING HER TO DREAM OF HER FUTURE HUSBAND...



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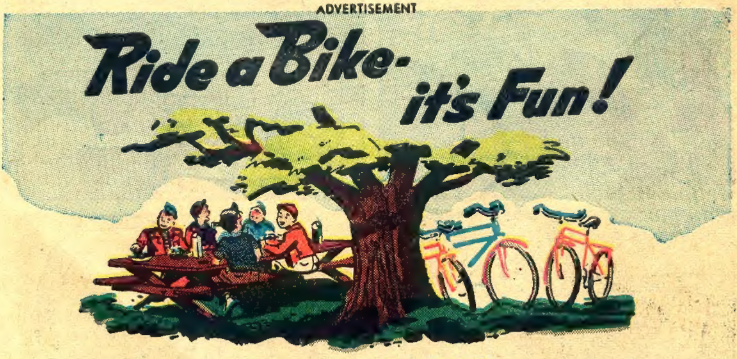

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LOOK FOR THE NAME ON THE BRAKE ARM!

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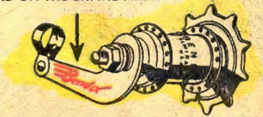

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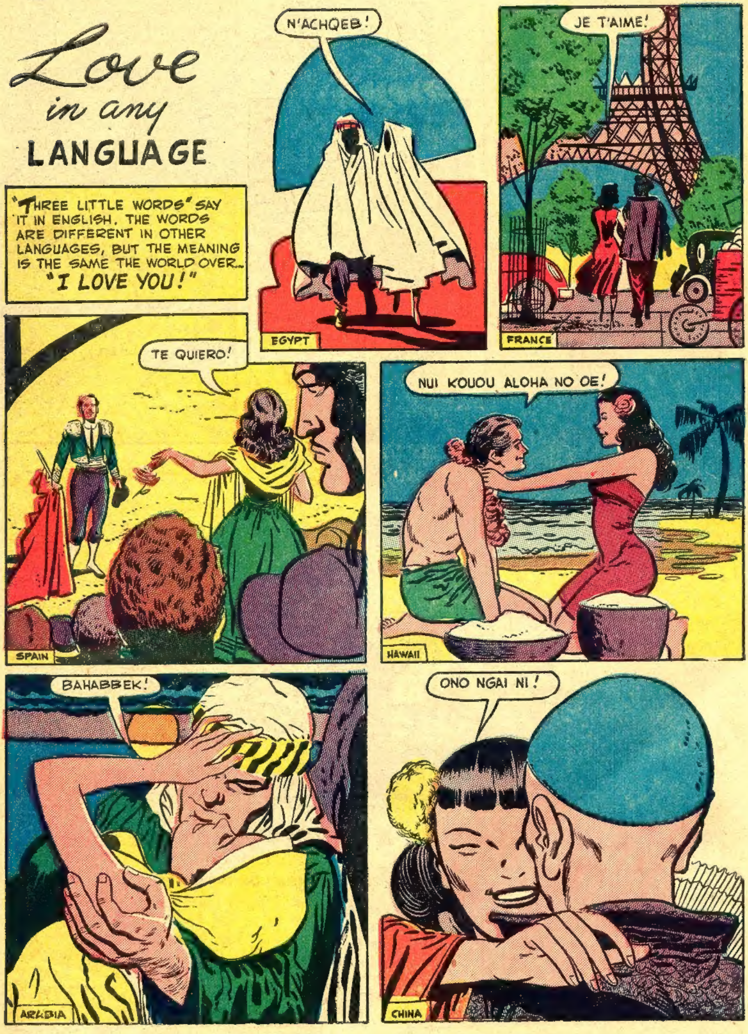
N'ACHQEB!
EGYPT
JE T'AIME!
FRANCE
TE QUIERO!
SPAIN
NUI KOUOU ALOHA NO OE!
HAWAII
BAHABBEK!
ARABIA
ONO NGAI NI!
CHINA

There's that skinny scarecrow ROGER. Let's pass him by!

You Can WIN
This 15" tall SILVER TROPHY JUST AS I DID IN 10 MINUTES OF FUN A DAY!

I GAINED 53 LBS. OF SHAPELY POWER-PACKED MUSCLES!

Which of these 2 ME'S is YOU ?

THAT 112 LB.-6 FT. SPINDLE-ARMED **SISSY** below WAS ME *A FEW SHORT WEEKS AGO*

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When I enrolled I was a skinny, sick weakling. As you can see in my "Before" Photo I looked like a child... years younger than my age. I was ashamed to take a picture in bathing trunks as I do now. I was shy with girls because I had nothing to show off. A few weeks after starting the Jowett Course my body was the best in the neighborhood. Now I get respect and admiration from every fellow and girl I meet.

Roger D. Hirsch
NEW YORK

NOW

Roger Hirsch before

NO! friend you don't have to be **SKINNY** any more just mail **NOW** the **FREE** coupon below as I did. Soon **YOU** can add **6½** inches to your **CHEST** **3** inches to each **ARM** and the rest in proportion just as I did.

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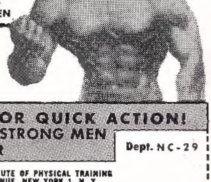
Come on, PAL, NOW YOU GIVE ME 10 PLEASANT MINUTES A DAY IN YOUR HOME... AND I'LL GIVE YOU a NEW HE-MAN BODY For Your OLD SKELETON FRAME.

says *George F. Jowett* World's Greatest Builder of HE-MEN



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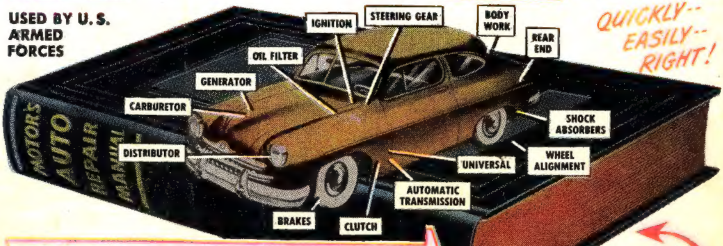

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